

Part of a "Sea Letter".

Written by Mary Hayden Russell to her daughter, Mary Ann Mount.

The ship "Emily of London" had evidently sailed thence early in January, 1823, encountered a severe gale and lost her boats and two men. The earliest recorded date seems to be Feb. 11th, passing Canaries, after which

Apr. 12th	at	Cape Good Hope
June 2nd	"	St. Paul's Island
July 6	"	Copang--Timor Island
Aug. 7	"	Passed through Billola Passage into Pacific
Oct. 1	"	Returned to Ternate--Spice Islands.
" 26	"	Left Kama--Celebes for Papuan Coast
Jan. 1	"	Still fishing near Papua
Feb. 15	"	Standing northwest--Alice Island
Mar. 10	"	Arrived St. Juan D'Apra--Guam

45 whales recorded to date.

This letter was probably sent home from that place. The ship was afterwards on the coasts of Japan - and returned to London before end of the year.

Capt. L. R. Jewett 1908

.....Wonderfully supported I found there was a reality in religion, but Oh! how much reason I found to lament my slow responding and that I had lived so far short of my valuable priviledges. This world and all that it contains appeared like vanity and in my estimation less than nothing.

My first inquiries were was there no lives lost. Alas! their looks soon convinced me my fears were too true. I had the moment before Caught the name of Flardy passing in whispers. I was now convinced he was gone. This was one of the best men we had. I had particularly noticed him as being always on the alert, and the first at everything. The moment before the sea struck our cabin boy had been trimming our night lamp, and when I knew he had left the cabin to go forward, at the instant my fears were excited for him. A search was made for him, his name called, but he was not to be found. Alas! he was gone with the other to render up their account with hardly time to say, "Lord, be merciful to me a sinner". Our dear William then came to my room with the greatest calmness and presence of mind. "Mother", said he, "try to compose yourself. Let us hope for the best. The hull of the ship seems, as far as I can find, to have not sustained any injury, but should it be otherwise, and this night is to prove our last, we will go trusting in the



mercy of God." He then with a piece of tape, which was the only sounding line which could be found, proceeded with a lantern to examine the ruin here. To his great joy he found all tight. The remainder of this eventful night was spent by me in adoring the sparing mercy and goodness of God, who amidst our severe chastenings still had compassion and spared us, tho utterly unworthy, for a little longer. The sea still continued to rage with indescribable violence. The sailors, terror-struck, were with much difficulty made to attend their duty. Towards noon the violence of the storm sensibly abated and a long interval of fine weather succeeded, which brought us up with the Canaries. We passed between the Island of Teneriffe and the Great Canary.

Feb. 11th

It was a pleasant morning, the atmosphere was particularly clear when I arose at daylight to view that stupendous mountain, the Peak of Teneriffe. The sight to me was truly sublime, the reflections of the rising sun spreading his beams on the snowy summit while the land on the opposite shore was half hid in obscurity. As the day advanced we saw a ship standing the same course as we were. Owing to our superior sailing we lost sight of her in a few hours.

Feb. 18th: Being nearly in the same latitude of the Cape de Verde, spoke a whaling sloop from Nantucket. We hailed the sloop requesting the master to come on board, as owing to the late storm we were deprived of boats to go to him. The master (C. Bunker) proved to be a man well known to thy dear Father, but quite a stranger to us, but he came from "our own native Isle of the Ocean". He was on that account made doubly welcome. He had been months out without obtaining a drop of oil, such is the precariousness of the business he was engaged in as well as ourselves. The usual questions where friends meet on the ocean of "What do you need?" was mutually exchanged and the day passed much to the gratification of all parties. While sailing on the vast trackless ocean, at a superficial view there was nothing to interrupt the dull monotony of the scene, but to one who views a providence in the minutest



object there is at sea a continual variety. Nothing seemed more effectually to lull my apprehensions of danger than watching the progress of those delicate little substances on water called by the sailors "Men of War". To see those slight fragile beings, tossed from wave to wave, yet always preserving an equilibrium and carried in this way hundreds and perhaps thousands of miles, could I for a moment doubt of that divine protection which was thus wonderfully bestowed on the most (to us) insignificant object? While running down the trade winds it was our greatest pleasure (and one I would not have exchanged for the crowded scene of a ball room or any other fashionable resort) to view the spangled vault of Heaven in all its magnificence. Here is a scene that never loses its interest nor satiates the eye of the beholder, the Karellan. Clouds which to me was a new source of wonder claimed particular attention.

In making necessary preparations for this voyage our friends in London started many objections and particularly thought we should feel the confinement of the ship irksome, that there would be a sameness, a monotony in the scenes, daily recurring, that would weary the mind by their frequency, but to me there is a constant variety which insensibly steals away the time and the return of the Sabbath frequently surprises me to know where the week has gone.

March 18th: The weather being unpleasant had confined me to the cabin all day, but the evening proving fine I had a chair placed on deck to see the sun set. My whole mind was engaged in contemplating the magnificence of the sun, when I heard a scream from my dear little Charles, who had the minute before left my side. Before I had time to inquire the cause his brother brought him to me with his arm broken just above the wrist joint. Such an accident on the land would have been distressing, but what were my feelings when I saw the child writhing in agony and no surgeon on board. He had been to the cabin and as he was returning, the ship giving a sudden lurch he fell off the fourth stair with his weight upon his arm which snapt it off. His dear father with that fortitude and presence of mind that seldom forsakes him took him



immediately below and with a man to steady the arm set it and splintered it up. The dear fellow bore the operation with a courage that would have done credit to a man. We are now making great progress towards the Cape of Good Hope. The weather from day to day is uncommonly fine. Little Charles is able to come on deck with his arm in a sling.

April the 4th: The pleasant sound of land once more salutes our ears, The sight was doubly welcome as we had for several days past a heavy swell with light winds, ship rolling and slatting from side to side. Next to a gale of wind, have ever found this weather the most unpleasant of any at sea. The finny tribes, however, are not any way of thinking, for they are gamboling and skipping in every direction.

April 12th

We have been for several days past, rocked with a heavy sea and could make but little progress towards our intended port which was Simon's Bay which we reached this afternoon. At the first view of this little sequestered town, which bears the same name as the bay, it looks like something built for the amusement of children. The lofty hills, or rather mountains, in the background give it such a tiny baby-house look. There is very little to interest or amuse the mind here except the family of Mr. Osmond, which consists of himself, his wife and five children. We had an invitation to dine with his Excellency Commodore Bowls the Sunday after our arrival which like visits of ceremony in general we past very pleasantly at Mr. Osmond's seat which is by far the handsomest in the place. We spent out time very pleasantly. Everything was done for our comfort by this truly hospitable family that hearts such as theirs could suggest. We had a ride out to one of his estates about four miles from the town, situated and I may say enclosed between two immense hills, except by the road that leads to it. The house is spacious and built in the cottage style. The pleasure grounds are handsomely laid out under the superintendence of Mrs. Osmond who takes the greatest delight in cultivating plants and flowers. She showed us several rare species of geraniums and other flowers, the only ones of the kind at the Cape, which she had preserved with great care and attention.



Nothing can surpass the beauty of the Myrtle Hedges which grow from three to six feet high. Rows of the scarlet flower'd geranium which grows spontaneously all over the hills, serve to enhance the beauty of each, when placed as they often are here by the side of each other. The Cape Myrtles as far surpass what we see growing in England as the Magnolia exceeds the common Water Lily. How often while viewing these excellent productions of nature have I wished my dear Mary Ann could be with me, since to convey an adequate idea of their beauty I found no language, or at least I possess not the power to do it.

In a hut constructed of reeds and thatch in one of the pleasantest parts of Mr. Osmond's seat lives a venerable old man, a slave, who had passed from one owner to another and still remains a fixture, he refuses his freedom, he says he planted the first tree that ever sprang up there and that his best days and strength have been laid out in ornamenting and adorning the scene, that where he had lived there he will die and be buried. A little spot sufficient to hold his last remains he has marked out and ornamented with the wild flowers that grow so abundantly in the mountains. From the best calculation he is a hundred years old, yet he is still hearty enough to cultivate a little garden. That with the addition of a few luxuries, such as tea and sugar, that his benevolent mistress takes care to provide, forms his principle living. The Malays are very abstemious, living almost entirely on vegetables and rice. It is no doubt owing to their temperance that we often see such aged people among this nation.

Having hired a wagon and six horses to visit Cape Town, on our return we turned off a little from the main road to visit Constantia, so long and so justly famed as producing the richest flavored wine (one or two kinds excepted) in the world. Here we saw everything relating to farming and wine making upon the largest and most improv'd scale of any in this country. Tho there are two more Constantias, yet not to be compared with the one we have just visited. Here was Dutch neatness and regularity in its highest perfection. Several choice samples of



wine were produced for our inspection, together with some delicious grapes and other fruit. The hospitality and politeness of the proprietor of this delightful estate we found to be as genuine as his wines, perhaps we relished our entertainment better for having ridden so many miles without stopping, as we were told the houses of entertainment were few and those very indifferent. Sussex Place us'd formerly to be an English Inn, but at the time we were there it was not us'd for this purpose. The present occupants think of again opening a house of this kind, as it is a great inconvenience to ride six or eight and twenty miles over a rocky road without stopping. Sussex was the half way house. We call'd there on our road to Cape Town, having had some slight acquaintance with the present occupants, Capt. & Mrs. Carmel, and were prevail'd on to stop all night. In the morning we saw the wolves tracks in every direction. The name of wolf generally strikes terror, but here at the Cape and indeed throughout this country they are quite harmless. Dr. Hartly, a physician at Cape Town, assured me that he had, when riding on horseback in the country, seen two or three of them at a time trotting along at his horses heels and that they did not offer to molest him any more than a spaniel.

April 17th: Visited Fish Hook Bay, a bleak barren situation where the whale fishing is carried on. The lady of the house presented me with some of the finest grapes I ever saw, and what seems strange to us these fine grapes grew from a soil composed of beach sand which was blowing in one's eyes enough to blind us. If it were not for the very kind attention and politeness of Mrs. Osmond and family, we should find our time pass very dull here. The repairs of the ship are going on with all possible expedition and by the last of the month we hope to be in a condition for prosecuting our intended voyage with safety.

May 8th: Have been on shore for the last time at Simon's Town, have bid goodbye to our dear friends, the Osmonds, with parting compliments to a few others. We are now well supplied with all the good things the Cape produces, dried fruits of all kinds and whatever else your dear Father thinks will be conducive to my comfort. Our dear Charles is quite



recovered from the effects of his fall and enjoys better health than he ever did since he was a year old.

May 17th: We are once more embark'd on our voyage and bound to the Coast of New Holland. The winds continue to blow strong, the sea runs high. This I am assured is the worst part of the voyage. I must therefore endeavor to bear it with patience however unpleasant it is for the present. It is seldom I find a day suitable for going on deck, but when I do it seems quite a luxury after the confinement below for a week. A walk on deck in the fresh air is delightful.

May 18th: Hard gale of wind, but thro' much favor we do not suffer from it as much as I sometimes have. I shall certainly become a good sailor at last. Could I but conquer that dread which has appall'd me ever since our misfortune, I shall have nothing else to annoy my happiness. Nothing but time and a firm reliance on Divine Providence will do this.

From the 18th to the 30th May continual gales of wind. This is the inhospitable coast of New Holland, but little is known of its customs and manners or ever will be. I think its boisterous shores threaten defiance to any one who should be hardy enough to explore them. Your dear Father talks of making the Island of St. Paul's, which is famous for the fine fish caught there. Monday, June 2nd saw the Isle of St. Paul's, stood close in and hove the ship to a small sloop which lay close in by the rocks. Two boats were immediately dispatched to procure fish. Soon after the boats reach'd the shore the sloop slipt her cable and came to the ship. Being hail'd they answer'd they came from Simon's Bay, that they sailed in company with the King George and parted from her a few days before in a gale of wind. This we knew was altogether false, as we came direct from Simon's Bay, had lain there six weeks previous and no such vessel had left it. It was evident from the number of men that they were Pirates. They passed close under the stern. The Capt'n. called to them to keep off or he would fire into them. Not content with this they took another turn and passed so near that we could distinguish their features and countenances which bore the stamp of villains. They appear'd both to give up their intention, but seeing so many boats all



sto'd with muskets, they bore away for the Isle of Amsterdam. The two boars returned loaded with some of the finest fish I ever saw. They resemble the American Shad, but fatter.

June 12th: The long wished for, long expected cry of "There she blows" was heard this morning. It set every one in motion. What a bustle! The first idea it produc'd was the ship is sinking, unacquainted as I was with such scenes. Here was a new scene to try my fortitude, my husband, my son expos'd to these monsters of the deep. What a comfort at that moment to reflect that they were in the hands of God who was as willing as able to protect them. I could truly say, "They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in the mighty waters, they seeth wonderful works of the Lord" .

June 28th: Saw Tower Island, so called from its peculiar shape. As the boats were going for wood, I embraced the offer your dear father made me of going on shore. We landed safe, there being but little surf. It is destitute of inhabitants except buffaloes & deer. We saw none of them, but recent tracks show'd that they had fled at our approach. The shores was strew'd with red and white coral. We brought away a few specimens with some other curiosities. The long grass prevented my going far from the beach. The soil seems very rich and capable of producing in great abundance were it cultivated. Nature had produced as handsome parks by the regularity and size of the trees as you can imagine, ready stock'd with deer. The weather threatening rain we left this pleasant spot with regret. I believe I was the first European female that ever set foot on it. 29...30 Fine weather. I am enabled to sit on deck a great part of the day. I amuse myself with my needle since the weather grows fine. I find myself insensibly sliding into regular habits. I can hardly credit it myself that it is possible to have my family concerns conducted with so much comfort on ship board. How do I enjoy good weather. It conveys such a gladness to my heart that I can hardly express it. You can judge from my feelings that I have suffer'd from our late severe passage, which can so highly enhance the present change.

July 4th: This day we made the Island of Timor. I hear much talk of



Copang which is the Dutch capital. The Portugese are part owners of this extensive island. It is judg'd to be fifty miles off, but we are rapidly approaching it with a fine wind and a smooth sea. The Governor of Copang and his lady are particular friends of your dear Father. I am already pre-possessed in their favor by the description he gives me of them.

July 5th: Saw Pulla<sup>1</sup> Semo, a small fertile island close to Copang. It has a beautiful appearance as does Pulla Cara not far from it. It is the number and variety of these fertile spots, scatter'd here and there in such numbers that gives a peculiar interest to a voyage of this kind. I am told that the farther we go the more their numbers will increase.

July 6th: Safe anchor'd off Copang Harbor. I have been sadly frighten'd. We were in five fathoms water, having crop'd the end of a shoal that lies outside, the anchoring grounds. Thank Heaven, my fears were groundless. Your dear Father will go ashore tonight and pay his respects to the Governor and tomorrow I shall accompany.

While he is gone on shore, having a leisure hour I will endeavor to convey to you some idea of the appearance of the town from where we lie. To the right is the Fort with the Dutch flag flying. About three miles to the left is the governor's country house, directly opposite the landing place is Government House, a large low building. The front entrance is supported by large white pillars. These are the most prominent features as the rest of the buildings, as far as I can see, are composed of thatch and makes a very humble appearance.

Several canoes filled with natives are round the ship, holding up their different articles of barter and calling vociferously for Pesoo in exchange. Their appearance is grotesque and singular in the extreme, to one who has not been us'd to see nature in its roughest form. Their dress is very simple, consisting of a strip of cloth tied round their middle. The countenances of many of them look very open and pleasant, but your Brother is cautious in trading with them, not suffering more than one or two to come on board at a time, as they are notorious for pilfering whatever comes in their way that is made of iron. The natives of Timor are of midling stature, of a dark copper colour, their hair straight



and black, their hands and feet are much smaller than a European's, they have no beards and owing to this peculiarity and the smallness of their feet and hands I thought the greater part of them were women. In exchange for knives (Pesoo) we got a supply of fowls, sweet potatoes, bananas, cocoa-nuts, &c, &c. A knife that cost threepence in England would fetch two fowls and fruit is proportionally cheap.

July 7th: This morning as I was preparing to go on shore I heard a dreadful scream of distress. It was George Key, a sailor, who while doing something on the foreyard fell on deck. His head struck the anchor and his right leg is broken in two places. What a mercy if it must happen that we are in port where medical assistance is at hand. Your brother went immediately on shore and returned in a short time with Dr. Barrows, an English surgeon. He gives hopes that he will recover as his skull is not fractured as we at first feared. After ordering everything for the man's comfort that his unhappy situation would admit, we went on shore, your dear Father, myself and little Charles. Before we reached the landing we could discover a carriage and four in waiting. It was the Governor's with a coachman and two footmen, ready to attend us. Crowds of people had assembled on the beach to witness the uncommon spectacle, the sight of an English woman. As it is a place where the whale ships touch for refreshments, a white man was no novelty, but a female created a wonderful commotion. The road for a considerable distance was lined with both sexes, Chinese and natives of all sizes and ages. Our reception from Madam Hasart was friendly and polite. She is apparently about six and thirty, of middle size, and appears to have been very handsome indeed. Her goodness of heart shines out so conspicuously on her countenance that in the opinion of those who know her best she may be still thought handsome. In a half an hour after my introduction to her and the Governor I found myself quite at home. Our dinner was served in the greatest style and did credit to our kind entertainers. There were three women, two men and two boys that waited at table. The house slaves are neatly dressed, the women in check cotton Kines and blue cotton short gowns, the men and boys in long, loose gowns made of India print. The



women's hair comb'd up and formed into a Knot fasten'd on the top with a long silver pin or Rener. The men have a small handkerchief of different colors (but red seems to be the favorite color) tied gracefully round their heads. Madam Hasart is a native of Batavia, her father a French physician, her mother a Creole of the country. She is consequently nearly white. She was carefully educated by her father, who had good sense and generosity enough to think that women have souls (quite contrary to the prevailing idea in this part of the world) and took pains to instil into her mind such principles and ideas as he thought would lead her in time to know the value of it. I could soon perceive by her conversation, tho carried on in broken English, that she possessed a fund of information on every subject that occurred. They are very solicitous that I should stop with them and let your Father proceed on his voyage without me. This I could sooner agreed to than to stop at the Cape, but I have embark'd in a cause that nothing but sickness shall make me desert, but I am wandering from my subject which was to give you some account of the amusements of the day.

Tea, coffee and sweetmeats were brought in directly after dinner. We then were invited to walk in the pleasure grounds which are very taste-fully laid out. At the bottom of a long gravel walk, border'd with orange and pomegranett trees, is a pond dug out like a basin. The water is led to it by a trunk which admits it at one side and leads it out at the other, which being turned into various channels serves to water the adjacent plantation.

Towards evening visitors began to collect and we soon had the drawing room filled with all the rank and fashion that Copang could boast. Some of the ladies were very handsome and having their faces well Chenam'd (rubbed over with slaked lime) might well pass in the evening for white women. The simple dress of the country was not unbecoming and being made of good European prints, I liked them, better in it than the appearance of one who striving to outdo the others was dressed partly English which not agreeing with the rest of her habiliments, made a very grotesque appearance.



Perhaps you will like to hear something respecting the decorations of the house of a governor of a remote Island as Timor. The rooms are very lofty and about thirty by twenty feet. Four very large windows, framed and sashed, but on account of the heat of the country not glass'd, served to admit air as well as light, with shutters outside to keep out the wet. These were furnished with English print drapery curtains in a plain neat style. At each end of the room stands an ebony sofa covered with print to match the curtains. Large Turkish rugs lie before the sofas and the intervening spaces round the room filled with arm'd chairs with cane seats. The walls were hung with good prints on different subjects, well framed and classed. A pair of card tables, a pair of large gilt frame looking glasses, three elegant fancy time pieces, one very valuable, finished the furniture of the drawing room. In the dining room were two large upright organs, a high chest of drawers which I found was in the room of a sideboard, two elegant, musical time pieces, a large eight day clock, sofas, pictures, looking glasses, etc. The floors are neatly painted but no carpets. A band of music formed entirely of the governor's own slaves were placed in the gardens. I was greatly delighted with their performance, but more with their appearance when Madam Hasart took me out to see them, little boys with tamborines, and one little fellow with a drum was so small that he lay down on the grass to play, several playing the violin apparently not more than seven years old. The master musician, an old man, seemed quite delighted with the praise I bestowed on his pupils. It was surprising to see how well they understood time. There was not a discordant sound throughout the band, the composed mostly of children from seven to twelve years old. This island is subject to a fever of a most malignant kind. We thought best therefore to decline their urgent solicitations to spend the night, as there is a chilly air towards the morning that to one unaccustomed to such a climate is very pernicious to health, but it was settled that I should come on shore every morning and return to the ship in the evening.

We returned to the waterside in the carriage, one footman preceding us with a lighted bamboo for a torch. The road leading from the



governor's seat to the shore is mostly level and cover'd with gravel. It is a mile and a half long and made entirely at his own expense and for the good of society at large.

July 13th: We have now been here a week and I have not missed one day going on shore. Our time has passed very pleasantly. Madam Hazart is very domestic. We read, sew and knit alternately. She has learnt to make tatting, double netting and several other stitches already. In the cool of the evening we walk sometimes on the seashore, sometimes we have a ramble in the adjacent woods and trace the little river that supplies the fish and which after following for about a mile terminates in a spring that issues out from between two large trees; the water possesses mineral properties and is counted very wholesome by the inhabitants. These venerable woods form a part of the property of Mr. Tilman, the secretary to the governor, and the next principal man in Copang. The old family mansion is immensely large and appears to have stood ever since the Dutch first had possession of the land. It has withstood the wear of the elements and from the clumsiness of the architecture bids fair to stand several generations more. Within a few years an aunt of Mr. Tilman's died and left a thousand slaves, an immense sum of money, in gold and silver, and more than one half of Copang in houses and lands which was divided between three brothers. The eldest brother has very bad health and is seldom seen, the second is Mr. Secretary and the youngest, Mr. Henrique, is general in chief of all the Dutch force in the island. They are now prosecuting a war with great vigour with a native chief whose name is Abbenuman. He is an inveterate enemy to the Dutch and fights sturdily for his independence. I have been introduced to Mrs. J. and Mrs. H. Tilman, who appeared very amiable domestic women. Mrs. J. Tilman plays the harp and piano forte, but she neither understands Dutch nor English, so of course we are not very good company.

Your dear Father finds himself quite at home here as he speaks a little Malay and all the gentlemen understand and speak a little English. Mr. Hazart and Mr. Tilman both have a billiard table in their house, in



the cool of the evening they amuse themselves with billiards. There has not been any account from the army for several weeks and they seem anxious to hear the result of an engagement that was daily expected at last account.

July 25th: Mr. H. Tilman has arrived in town and brings news of the death of Abbenuman, their old foe. Great hopes are now entertained of bringing the natives to submit, as the Dutch have a strong party among the natives that will now declare in their favor.

July 29th: Our coming to Copang at this time seems very apropos as we find by the preparations that the governor's eldest son is soon to be married to the daughter of the elder Mr. Tilman, a young lady about fifteen. They have a curious custom here of decorating the rooms on such occasions entirely with artificial flowers, draping ceiling, and every part of the house indoors is dressed in this way. The dress of the bride-maids are trim'd with two or three rows of artificial flowers, composed chiefly of white and green. They begin therefore some time previous to the celebration of marriage to make flowers of various kind, which is done by the female slaves under the superintendence of the mistress. We happened fortunately to have a box of elegant flowers which we presented for the occasion, besides different kinds of wine, especially Constantia. That perhaps never found its way to Copang before. When a person of consequence is married nothing can exceed the style and expense of the entertainments which frequently last a fortnight or three weeks. Nothing is attended to at that time, but festivity and rejoicing. The friends of both parties strive to outvie each other in magnificence and expenses. The simple article of a comb for the bride, presented by her uncle, Mr. Secretary Tilman, is valued at a thousand dollars. The young folks here are extremely fond of dancing, especially waltzing. All their entertainments conclude with a ball. The governor has no children by his present lady, but as she is particularly fond of children, she has no less than nine in her home now of various sizes that she is godmother to and to stand in that relation here seems quite a different affair from what it is considered in England. Here whatever may be the



rank or condition of the parents the sponsors (if they choose) are entitled to take the child home, adopt it into their own family. They consider themselves bound solemnly to educate and provide for their nominal children and if their wealth permits to establish them in life. Three of Madam Hazart's adopted children were motherless and one, a little mulatto girl, was left without father or mother. They all seemed perfectly contented and happy. They attended a day school kept by the Rev. Mr. \_\_\_\_\_; at the close of the day it was the custom of these little ones to assemble on a grass plat in front of the house and form a ring when one of the elder children would sing a stanza and all the rest join in chorus. Listening to their play one fair morning I observed they often made use of the word "Capple". This attracted my attention, when I was soon convinced by the little I understood of the Malay language that your dear Father was the subject of their song. When I mentioned it to Madam Hazart, who was viewing with benevolent pleasure their little sports, she in the best manner her imperfect English would allow explained to me the subject. It was literally thus: "There lies the ship that bring good Capt'n, no get drunk good capt'n, bring cloth for Thebiah and sell for Rupee, bad Capt'n. come here, get drunk, what for get drunk bad Capt'n." What a tribute of artless praise was this! Gratifying to me, you, my dear Mary Ann may be assured.

July 30th: For this several days past our amiable Hostess has been superintending the making and packing of all kinds of delicacies the Island affords, piles of plantains, oranges, green and ripe coconuts, yams, sweet potatoes, etc. lie in every direction ready to be sent on board. This island produces a sweet kind of Tamarind that requires much less sugar in preserving than the common kind.

Buffaloes, sheep and fowls are already sent on board in great abundance. They have a method here of preserving milk by boiling it down with a proportion of lump sugar. It is then made into small cakes and exposed in the sun when it hardens and will keep a long time in this state. A small piece in a cup of tea serves both purpose of sugar and cream. Two fine milch goats are sent on board so we shall not want for



milk soon. Happening to notice some children among the domestics that I had not seen before, Madam Hazart informed me that they were sent to the governor from the Island of Solo as payment of a debt, that she was very sorry to have them for they had more people than they could find employment for. She obser'd that her principles and feelings would not allow her to sell human beings, but she had frequently given them to such of her friends as she was assured would use them well. Beckoning to the new comers they came on, when Madam Hazart said if I would accept one of them I might have my choice. They were three fine looking child girls, apparently about nine years old. I accordingly selected one that from her intelligent countenance I thought would answer. When we ask'd her by signs if she would go in the ship with me, appear'd highly delighted. She will go on board tonight, as we have but one more day to stop and that must be chiefly devoted to leavetaking visits, which will be particularly unpleasant after having experienced such unbounded kindness.

July 31st, Went on shore for the last time. The governor and his lady desired that your Father and myself would think if there was any one thing that was in their power to procure for us that we were not supplied with; we thank'd them with grateful hearts for all their kindness and assured them we had everything we needed in great abundance. When we were about to come away Madam Hazart took from a box a beautiful diamond ring and with a grace peculiar to herself placed it on my finger, saying, "My dear Mrs. Russell, this ring I had made for you. It is set with my own hair. When you look at this think sometimes of your friends at Timor who will never forget you". She then presented me with an elegant gold chain and a Chinese fan of great value and curious workmanship. It was in vain I pleaded my utter inability to make any return. She wished for none, she said, but my acceptance. At a late hour we bade adieu to our affectionate friends with hearts deeply impressed with a sense of gratitude. The next morning, August the 1st took our anchor and left the harbour, intending to cruise for a few days just out of sight, and then send in a boat for two sailors, who had deserted and who supposing us gone would then show themselves. The governor having issued



orders to have them apprehended wherever they could be found; according August the 4th sent in the boat and brought one away, the other was not to be found.

August 3rd: Saw the Island of Lombloin, went close in with the land so as to see the cultivation, little towns were scattered the whole length of the Island which appear'd under the highest state of improvement. The day was uncommonly fine and in the course of a few hours, we had twenty four proas round the ship, but did not seem inclined to trade or come very near. If all our voyage were to be as pleasant as this, coming to sea might be considered a pleasureable excursion. Timor straights thro' which we are now sailing are from 27 to 50 miles wide and as the winds are light and baffling at this season of the year, we are obliged to tack from shore to shore, so that we have an opportunity of seeing all the towns and harbours as we pass up.

August 4th: This afternoon sent a boat on shore to trade with the natives for corn and different kinds of fruit; iron hoops and knives makes the best trade here.

August 7th: Saw Paula Cambang, discovered a ship in shore. August 10th saw the Island of Dilly, a Portugese settlement famous for its oranges which are counted the best in the world. It abounds in all kinds of refreshments for ships, but it is almost certain death for Europeans. Some ships that have put in there to refresh have left the greatest part of their crews behind. It was at this Island that Capt'n Moses Bunker died of the prevailing fever when he commanded the Minerva of Nantucket, the first ship and I believe the last that ever sail'd from America to the Coast of Timor on a whaling voyage.

August 11th: Saw the Island of Kisser which abounds in excellent sheep in addition to the various productions of other Islands in these Seas. At noon the ship stood so near the Island I could plainly view the towns situated on the tops of the hills. I counted four which appear'd populous and most delightfully situated. They are called Nizary's. Your Father went on shore with two boats to see if he could make trade for fruit &



vegetables, but with an injunction not to take any Sheep, as our decks were already sufficiently crowded with live stock. In about three hours he returned with such a cargo that our deck when they were all passed out of the Boats resembled Fulton Market more than anything else I could compare it to here. For the first time I saw the China orange in perfection, they are small but have a flavor that I think preferable to the large kind. Fine Apples they brought off in abundance, but not being quite ripe, we lost many of them. The natives of this Island are quite civilized and appear'd to be a harmless quiet people. The trade that suits this Island best is cutlery and powder. The latter article they prize very highly and will give any price you ask in exchange. The weather still remains fine, and we are every day in sight of land abounding in cultivation. It is now the 23rd of August, and since leaving Kisser we have pass'd Pulla Dama, Banda, Amboyna (where your dear Father in a former voyage had the misfortune to bury his Mate, Hezekiah Coffin, and where he only escap'd the jaws of death himself), Manipa, Ceram, and this morning we are off Pula Pesang. Two boats are gone on shore for wood. This afternoon the boats return'd. Your dear Father went on shore and seeing the rocks cover'd with beautiful spotted shells he employ'd himself while the people were getting down wood in picking shells, sometimes up to his neck in water, which together with the extreme heat of the sun had such an effect on him that coming on board he was seiz'd with a violent retching. As soon as possible I gave him an emetic which in a few hours by casting off an amazing quantity of Bile quite relieved him. Had I not took this excursion and thus disturb'd the Bile the consequence would have been in all probability a severe fever incident to this climate.

August 24th: We are now steering for the Geba Passage, saw the Islands of Boo and Joey.

August 25th: Saw Raib Island, the weather very calm and the heat very oppressive.

August 27th: Off Geba and Syang. 28th Saw Pidgeon Island which is



inhabited. It has a very pleasant appearance and afford cocoa-nuts and wild Pidgeons in abundance. 29th Pass'd close by Wazes Island, saw the Yawl Island at twenty five miles distance, today we have had very squally weather with severe lightning and distant thunder. 30th saw whales and after a toilsome chase succeeded in taking two. Aria Islands, three in number, in sight. These islands are destitute of inhabitants, but abound with excellent turtle, they are connected by reefs which at low water are in many places quite dry. The weather here is extremely variable and squally, but it is consider'd good ground for whaling.

September 3rd: This morning early saw whales, when four boats are lower'd in pursuit. My dear husband was soon fast to one and in drugging another had his boars head completely broke off and his wrist joint badly sprain'd. The whales were so near that I could distinctly view the whole scene with a glass. My terror was extreme, and as he had sat down low in the stern to keep the boat balanced I concluded him more hurt than he really was. Under this impression I was with difficulty kept from fainting. To my great relief your dear Father was soon on board when I found, as is often the case, that my fears had outrun the reality.

September 4th: I find the weather on this coast very different from what we have had this several months past, frequent heavy squalls of wind and rain, sometimes accompanied with thunder and lightning. The squalls come so sudden that for a few minutes it appears as if every mast must inevitably go over the side and in a half an hour it is altogether as fine.

September 8th: This day we had the sight of a large whale. Your dear Brother having taken one of the largest kind, well may they be called the monsters of the deep. Indeed the view of such a monstrous animal sporting in its own element must naturally excite the most sublime ideas of the Creator of all things and lead us to wonder and adore in silence.

September 17th: For this some days we have been going towards St. Davids Islands, which are three in number and thickly inhabited, and



this morning early we were close up with them. The natives are a simple harmless people. Last voyage your Father took two of these simple Islanders at their request and after the Japan season he return'd one, the other died in a decline. We were soon surrounded with canoes and the King's canoe among the rest, who was but little distinguished from his subjects. They had learn'd to speak a little English from Lorei, the native who had been so long on board. He is the king's second son, the eldest and the third son accompanied their Father. The first inquiry of the Capt'n was for Lorie, but it seems his two wives, fearful that he would take another voyage, had prevented him by force from coming on board. The ship's name and the Capt'n's was very familiar with the most of them and as Lorei had report'd his good treatment on board many of them were extremely anxious to go with us, indeed it appear'd as if we might soon have mann'd the ship with volunteers. These people expressed but little wish for anything but fish hooks and iron which they were extremely eager for. We had the king and his two sons down in the cabin. Your dear Father dressed the king in a white shirt and a new straw hat and presented him with knives, fish hooks, iron hoops, etc. The dress of these natives is a strip of cloth made from the rind of the cocoa-nut, but they have a frightful way of frizzing their hair which serves to protect them from the sun as well as a hat. As we were two hands short, the Capt'n agreed to take the king's third son, a fine looking lad, apparently about twenty, and another of the same age by the name of Bookalap Boohoo. The most of their names ended with the hoo which to hear them pronounce in their way sounds truly singular. These people have not a warlike weapon among them, not so much as a bow and arrow. When Lorei was ask'd if they ever fought at St. Davids "Oh, yes, plenty fight," he said. "But how do you fight, Lorei?" "Oh, plenty pull hair". This was all the idea they had of war. Their chief subsistence is coconuts and fish. Bread of any kind they had no idea of, nor is there any vegetable whatever as a substitute. In stormy weather when fishing is not practicable in these small canoes, these islanders suffer greatly



from hunger. The king claims the head of every fish that is taken as his undisputed property. They do not appear to have any religious ceremonies among them, except dancing in a ring at the full of the Moon. They had not the least idea of future rewards or punishments. The visible objects that appear in the full Moon they told us, was an old Man with a Basket of fish on his back. The two natives we intended to take were dress'd immediately in a suit of clothes. Bucalaps friends persuaded him strongly not to go, but without effect; on the natives leaving the ship the king was presented with three sheep, two females and one male. Your dear Father presented Lorei with three fowls, 2 hens and a cock when he left the ship the voyage before, besides different kinds of garden seeds, but the rats that are very numerous destroy'd the seed as soon as they were put in the ground; owing to their ignorance in breeding fowls they had been unsuccessful, so that their stock remain'd the same. The next day after leaving St. Davids we encountered a heavy squall of wind or rather gale, as it lasted six hours. The poor natives were at their wits end expecting every moment the ship would upset and they shout'd "perish", when they found the ship could endure such winds and not mind it they seem'd altogether as much elated in proportion to their fears.

September 22nd: Saw the Island of Pupua or New-Guinea twenty-five miles distant the next day. Saw a ship come up and spoke her. She was the Nearchus, Capt'n Baker of Calcutta, from Manilla, bound to Calcutta. Had been recently struck with lightning which took his fore and mizen masts from the skysail to the step. Capt'n B. came on board and had the goodness to send us a bag of Cocoa with several other little things which he thought would be useful to us. In return we presented him with a fine cheese. He stopped two or three hours which gave us an opportunity of writing by him to our owner and to you, my dear Mary Ann, which I hope you will in due time receive. In the morning previous to our speaking Capt'n Baker, he had spoken a ship from London, a South Seaman, call'd the Cape Packet. He observ'd to us that his lady passengers of whom he had two, a lady and her daughter, had observ'd what a difference



there was in the manners of the two Capt'ns; the master of the Cape Packet could not be distinguished from his sailors in any respect, while your dear Father seem'd what he really was: "This is easily account'd for." said your Father, "that capt'n is a Yankee!" "Indeed," replied he, "if I did not think so at the time; had you been a Yankee, Capt'n Russell, you would not have seen me on board here, for I detest and despise those Yankees!" Here was prejudice carried to its utmost extreme. Little did he think at the moment that he was conversing with two of those detestable beings. I think when he finds it out (which he certainly will, as he had a man on board that had known your father many years) it will cause him to discard such useless prejudices for the future.

September 23rd: We are now cruising off the Cape of Maratta, a place that has for many years been a noted resort of sperm whales, especially at this season of the year. The weather here is extremely variable, shines and showers succeed each other several times in the course of the day. Hitherto we have not had any serious illness on board which may be attributed solely to the unwearied care your dear Father has taken to keep them dry and clean and in attending to the first symptoms of every complaint. I have often had reason since I left England to bless the little knowledge I had of medicine, as it has contributed to take a great care off the mind of my husband. He examines the cases and reports them to me; this is his part and I am happy to say the medicines I have administer'd have never fail'd of their desir'd effect.

October 1st: We are drawing near to the Island of Ternat, where your dear Father has many acquaintances, as he stopped there twice during last voyage and the first time he was detain'd better than a month owing to the mutiny that broke out while lying there. As we, who were then in America, heard so many various and contradictory reports, I shall here insert for your satisfaction, the particulars of that disagreeable scene that ended so fatally for one of ~~the~~ misguided objects. It is a fact well known that the Dutch in the Malacca's and Celebes Islands are extremely rigid in their discipline. *Ternat being* an island where *whale*



ships frequently stopped for refreshments, the sailors going on shore on liberty, had prov'd so riotous and disturb'd the inhabitants so much that Mr. Nice, the governor, had found it necessary to issue orders for all sailors to go on board their respective ships at sunset except such as were waiting for their captains. On the eighth of March eighteen hundred twenty one half the ships company had liberty to go on shore with strict injunctions to be on board at sunset. They were told it was the governor's order and that they were on no pretence to disobey it. They accordingly all return'd except two who stopped on shore all night and came on board next morning. Previous to this they had enter'd into a combination that none of people on board should be struck let their crime be what it would, that the Capt'n should not have the liberty of correcting a prentis, if he attempted it they were all to come in a body and rescue him. On the strength of this combination when your dear Father the next day inquired why they were not on board at the appointed time, Neagle, one of the sailors, was very impertinent, using such language as it was impossible any master of a vessel could take without losing all his authority. He accordingly struck the man with the flat of his hand, when in a moment he found himself surrounded by the people and one of them struck your dear Father on the head with a piece of plank. He was nearly stun'd by the blow for he has no recollection how he clear'd himself, but his powerful arm sent one to the right and another to the left and getting into the boat he went on shore and stated his situation to the governor, desiring him to take these mutinous men out of his ship. Capt'n Mattinson was there at the time, and as he was an old master your dear Father took his advice in all he did down from the moment application was made to the Dutch governor. Whatever was done became an act of theirs and your dear Father had nothing further to do with it. Mr. Nice said he would send an officer, Lieutenant Barns, with five or six soldiers and take the men. Your dear Father observ'd to Mr. Nice that from the spirit they were in he expected they would resist. "Then," he replied, "I shall be under the necessity of shooting them." He accordingly give instructions to the officer to take all necessary



means to prevent the effusion of blood, but if they stood out to fire on them. Following his instructions when he came on board he desired your Father to call the disaffected on the quarter deck, that he might enquire into the motions of their conduct. This he did and they refus'd to come. Lieutenant Barns then call'd them. They refus'd, swearing they would not come for any Dutch Rascal. After calling them three times he proceeded to fire over their heads. In the mean time the men had arm'd themselves with hand spikes, iron poles and whatever came in their way. When the soldiers fir'd over their heads, "Come on, boys!" said they, "we are not to be frighten'd with blank cartridges. Now is our time and we're rushing upon the soldiers." When the word was given to fire and in an instant three lay extended upon the deck. The rest seeing their comrades fall immediately surrender'd, they were all taken on shore, the wounded to the hospital, and the others to the fort for further examination. The names of those that were wounded were Beadle, Ellis and Smith who died in a few days of his wounds. Beadle and Ellis recover'd and were sent to Java together with three others, as these were the ringleaders of the mutiny. The rest that were concerned were very glad to return to their duty and behav'd themselves with the greatest propriety the rest of the voyage.

October 2nd: This day we had two very heavy squalls after having calms and light air, which made them for the short time they lasted the more severe.

October 3rd: Saw Ternat; a high mountain, is all we can yet see of it, being thirty miles distant. This mountain has a volcano that frequently emits smoke. It has in times past sent forth torrents of lava and other volcanic matter. There is a crater at the top which admits of ones going down six hundred feet below the surface of the peak. Mr. Devonbody, Mr. Burney's agent, had the curiosity to go down.

October 4th: We have just cast anchor in Ternat Harbour and are making preparations for going on shore. Mr. Devonbody's house is but a short walk from the beach and like most of the houses in this country look



but indifferent outside, but when you enter the scene changes. You find every convenience and most of the luxuries of life. This observation only applies to a few, as the principle part of the habitations are as miserable in the internal as the external appearance. The free people of Ternat form but a small portion of the inhabitants which amount to nearly five thousand, as a gentleman of any property must have fifty or sixty slaves. Some few that are the richest own two or three hundred. These live in small huts built of bamboo, scatter'd here and there on the estate of their masters. They are extremely indolent and would of their own accord do nothing, but eat and sleep. The common dress of the slave is the same as Timor, Copang, but when the master and mistress pay a visit, then the slave is decorated with fancy ornament, such as hair pins, necklaces, rings, eardrops, etc, which are sometimes made of topaz or paste, but oftener real diamonds, large or small, according to the wealth and rank of their master. Dancing is an amusement very much practiced among the young people, to prepare their dress and ornaments for a ball is considered the principal business of their lives. Both sexes marry very young, the ladies in particular. They think fourteen a very proper age and I am told that many marry at twelve and thirteen. This seems strange to one acquainted with European manners, who have been in the habit of considering marriage as attended with great and important duties to which a child of that age, however amiable, would be totally unfit.

Mr. Devonbody, who was for many years Mr. Burney's agent, died in a few months after your dear Father left here last voyage. Today I was introduced to his widow and never was I more disappointed. Judging of the wealth she was in possession of, I expected certainly to see a lady respectably clad, not, of course, in the extreme of European fashion, but in some degree suitable to her rank and situation. Instead of that she was dress'd in her kine and Kobiah, made of materials but very little, if any better than her house slaves. To have judged from her looks I should have had thought her about sixty-five, but I am told her



age does not exceed forty. Her whole aspect indicated a person of extreme parsimony and anxious for nothing but to accumulate money. This I soon found was the leading trait in her character, but sickness and care had made sad havoc with her constitution, and it was evident that however great her possessions, she had not a great while to enjoy it. Poor woman! I sincerely pity her misguided mind which has taken this unhappy bias, abounding in riches and tho' utterly unable to enjoy what a bountiful Providence has bestowed upon, still grasping with a miser's hand after money. She has no child living, but her husband had one by a former wife who was at an early age sent to London, to receive his education. He has now finish'd his English studies and gone to Holland to study Dutch. He is now daily expected at Ternat to take possession of the property left him by his Father. Mrs. Devonbody seems very anxious for his arrival. We began to be a little more sociable than I at first imagined we could be. Mrs. Devonbody begins to recollect a little English and I am daily learning a little Malay, but our best assistant is Mrs. Devonbody's nephew, son to the governor of Gonontally, who speaks very good English. He is residing at present with his aunt, besides two brothers and three sisters, more of the same family, As there is more agreeable society at Ternat than any of the Moluccas, Amboyna excepted. When we find ourselves unable to-comprehend each others meaning Sandy is called, the name of the young man I alluded, who soon interprets for us. I mentioned just now that we had three of Mr. Sandy's sisters here; the eldest, Miss Maria, is about seventeen, slim and tall in her person with a fair Chinese countenance, but the most indolent being that nature ever produced. She is actually too lazy to talk. "From morn to noon, from noon to dewy eve" she stands about the house gazing at vacuity, a listless nobody, regarding none, and I believe but little regarded herself.



Note: These two pages seem interpolated. 6 pages at Kema and 10 pages.

(It seems while the Syren was lying off and on at the island the natives were very friendly and came on board in great numbers to trade for knives, fish hooks, etc. When without the least provocation they rose upon the ships company, kill'd the carpenter and one seaman and wounded several more and for some minutes had charge of the ship, but Capt'n Coffin succeeded at last in driving them over board when they took to their canoes and made their escape.)

Your dear Father was on the boat and in endeavoring to intercept, came very near having a spear sent thro' him. Eager to make them come alongside he had got so near the proa the oars of the boat were entangled with their outriggers. At this moment one of the natives siez'd a spear and pointing it at your dear Father with his body crouch'd would have darted it, had he not instantly siez'd a musket and presented it. On the sight of this formidable weapon he drop'd his spear and salam'd the boat, then return'd to the ship and after the chief man had had time to make his toilet, which consisted of a gay chintz dressing gown with a cotton handkerchief folded narrow and brought round to knot in front, leaving the crown of his head uncover'd with the hair standing up eight or ten inches in length. Add to this gay appearance a savage countenance much scar'd and

you will form  
some idea of our  
guest who on  
coming on board  
made two or three  
salams by bringing  
his face down  
to the deck after  
which ceremony he was  
introduced to the

Left Kema October 26th.

Nov. 2nd squally

Nov. 6th: Saw ship going into Geba

" 9th: Spoke to Ann

" 11th: Saw the Isle of New Guinea

" 12th: Saw proas

" 15th: Took a whale

" 18th: Saw the Aria Isle

Dec. 7th: Whales saw rocks under our ship

12 5 more

Jan. 3rd: Lost in the fog



cabin where wine was  
plac'd before him of  
which by signs he was

Jan. 9th Lost a whale from along-  
side.  
Mar. 3rd: Man over board  
Mar. 11th: Saw Guam

press'd to partake but so much was his mind carried out with the different  
and to him wonderful objects, that met his view that he could neither  
eat nor drink much tho it was evident the taste of our muscatel suited  
his palate. He gazed at me and your brother Charles with marks of  
astonishment. Beckoning to Charles who went to him, he passed his hand  
several times over his face and then examined his light glossy hair  
to ascertain if it really was flesh and substance. He next caught  
a view of his own figure in a glass which seem'd by the satisfaction he  
express'd to be very pleasing.



Miss Manche, the youngest is a happy and powerful contract to her oldest sister, always employ'd. Her temper is happy and cheerful in the extreme. She takes pleasure in assisting her aunt in superintending domestic concerns and is amply repaid by the love of every one that knows her. Whoever is so happy as to obtain her for a wife will have a prize rare indeed in this part of the world.

Rosanna the mentioned last is not to be counted least as she applies herself very assiduously to the harp which she plays uncommonly well and tho it cannot be rank'd among the useful avocations of a female, it is far better than doing nothing. The harps of this country are small in comparison to an English harp and like those us'd on the Coast of Peru have no pedals, but the tone is sweet and soft, but is destitute of that grandeur of sound so peculiar to the pedal harp. The instrument and performance is however far superior to anything I could have expected in this remote part of the world and when accompanied with the violin is very good music.

October 10th: Last evening we had a pleasant ride in Mrs. Devonbody's carriage. I had an opportunity of seeing a great deal of the town, as we started about six and were gone two hours, in which time we had a view of all the principal streets, took a circuit around Port Orange and came back by the Market which was throng'd to excess.

In the next street a little before you come to the market is a mosque which being the first building of the kind, I had ever seen, greatly excited my curiosity. We stopped for a moment to give me an opportunity of seeing as much as their religion allows to us Christians. It was built of stone and cover'd with cement which was kept as white as alabaster. In front was a row of large pillars arch'd over. Here the sentries walk constantly to guard their sanctuary from the footstep of any other persuasion. As far as I could see of the interior, its construction was simple and extremely neat. When we turn'd to leave it I gave a sigh for the delusion of so many thousands of my fellow beings who thus live and thus will die, ignorant of the glorious light of truth,



for I am assured by a Dutch gentleman who takes a great interest, indeed is connected with the missionary society, that their progress is extremely small in turning these Mohomedans to anything like Christianity. Much is to be attributed to their native indolence, but it is evident from the little information I can gain on the subject, that more hands are required in this large vineyard. The exertions of the few who take any interest in the conversion of the natives, however laudable and praiseworthy they maybe, are lost on nearly so when we consider that this island contains nearly or perhaps, quite five thousand inhabitants.

About a mile from the town stands the Sultante Palace upon an eminence which commands a full view of the town and harbour of Ternat with the Islands of Tidore, Gelola, Cara, etc. It is by far the handsomest situation for a building of this kind either in the town or environs the town; is Octagon with very lofty ceilings and Venitian Blinds which reach to the bottom or floor of the balcony which extends the length of four sides. The blinds are green, which being contrasted with the white walls of the building, has a very pleasant look. The whole, including the buildings for domestic offices is enclosed with a high pallisade of bamboos neatly arranged and dispos'd in front, so as not to obstruct the view to or from the Palace.

Last evening I was introduced to a very amiable lady and her family, who call'd here to see me, by name of Vintry. I could soon see that we should be very good friends, notwithstanding the disadvantage we labored under of not fully understanding each other. If my stay was not so short. We spent a very pleasant evening and parted with mutual regret that we had not sooner been made acquainted. Tomorrow we leave Ternat, intending to touch at the Island of Kemar to take on a stock of vegetables, such as onions and potatoes which cannot be procured at Ternat. Fruit is extremely plenty, such as shaddocks and many other kinds to numerous to name, but of all the varieties. There is none to equal the Mangosten Apple which possesses such a variety and richness of flavors that it is impossible for me to give you an idea adequate to its



merits. In size it is similar to an orange. It has a thick rind and is divided into as many apartments as there are scores on the outside which are indented like the scores of a musk melon. Here is the Primblemore or shaddock which is a fruit the size of a half-grown Pompion. The flavor is very fine. The Mango tree is loaded with small fruit, but none that is ripe. You can form some idea how much I enjoy this wholesome treat that Nature has so abundantly lavish'd on these islands. Indeed I live entirely on fruit and vegetables, if green corn can be call'd a vegetable which is now in season and uncommonly fine.

October 12th: Left Ternat with a fine breeze, bound to Kemar which is about two days sail with the prevailing winds at this season.

October 13th: This morning came to anchor at Kemar and had the pleasure to find Capt'n Coffin of the Syren here. He was just arriv'd from Japan where he had been very successful. Mr. Bunker, the chief mate, came on board to see me. He seems in very bad health and has nearly lost the sight of one eye from the effects of a severe wound he receiv'd from the natives at one of the Friendly Islands. (It was while the Syren was lying off and on the Island of Pelelew. The natives were very friendly and came on board in great numbers to trade for knives, fish hooks, etc, when without the least provocation they rose upon the ship's company, kill'd the carpenter and one seaman and wounded several more and for some minutes had possession of the ship, but Capt'n Coffin succeeded at last in driving them overboard and happily saved themselves from a general massacre.)<sup>1</sup>

I can see as yet but little to interest me at Kemar. The town itself is well laid out in squares and seems populous, but there seems a want of good society. What few respectable people there are seem jealous of each other and afraid to show much respect to strangers. All kinds of trade with the English ships touching here for refreshments is strictly interdicted, notwithstanding the inhabitants are suffering for many of the necessaries of life, particularly clothing. There is a dutch missionary here who from what I can learn seems but ill-qualified for recommending

1. See ante.



the divine precepts he came to teach, as he is everything but a good man and a Christian in nothing but the name. Balls are the principal amusements of Kemar. I am told that the resident is to give one on our account. I do not expect to see anything very brilliant, but it may afford some novelty to witness the different customs and manners. I went last evening for a walk for the first time and was greatly pleased with my excursion. It is on the road leading to Manardo, another principal town and seaport of the Celebes. The road on each side was shaded with coconut, Plantains, Gomooty or toddy trees, interspersed and fill'd up with the greatest variety of aromatic shrubs, emitting a fragrance so delightful to the senses after a long confinement on shipboard. We passed several large plantations of coffee which bids fair to yield abundantly. One very large tract we walk'd over which belongs to Government was laid out in rows and under high cultivation. The soil of the island is, I am told, peculiarly adapted to the growth of coffee and produces the best of any in the Moluccas. On our return we pass'd large cemetery or family vault belonging to the Magistrate, Mr. Lucas, who is a kind of king of the natives. His revenue is a poll tax of four bunks which every free native has to pay. As we were walking slow, enjoying the fine view of the sun reflecting his blaze on the neighboring mountains, I noticed a number of natives, men and women, pass an angle of one of the squares just before us and after stopping a moment in a posture of devotion pass on. These were constantly succeeded by others till the sun's last beam disappear'd. On inquiring, I found it was the Hindo's evening offering to their Idol and on going up to the place, found what every vetary had deposited, about a spoonful of rice on a kind of table cover'd with a mat deposited at the corner for the purpose. The method of building here is peculiar and differs from any I have observed elsewhere, as the houses are all built on large wood pillars, rais'd from the ground from ten to twelve feet. Some few are built of wood, but mostly bambo. This plan of raising them so high from the ground is very conducive to health as well as a means of keeping out



the reptile tribes which are very numerous, so much so that in spite of all their precaution they are frequently found in their sleeping rooms, the very idea of which would expel Morpheus and all his train. Your dear Father and myself have been strongly solicited to live entirely on shore during our stay by Mr. Myers, an aged gentleman, who was formerly resident here, but resign'd his office on account of age and infirmities. His reverent appearance and the fund of information he possesses command respect and esteem, and find pleasure and profit in conversing with him, but cannot consent to stop on shore altogether. Such is my dread of these noxious animals.

October 21st: Last evening was given the Resident's Ball which was truly characteristic of Kemar, dull, clumsy and unsociable, the gentleman sitting in one room, the ladies in another which no gentleman approach'd only to take partners and return them; after the dances concluded, the ladies that were not engaged sitting prim and silent in their own apartments, as the ballroom was the gentleman's room. I, of course, was only a spectator and was glad to escape from this dull scene before twelve while the rest of the party continued dancing 'till sunrise.

October 26th: Left Kemar bound to the coast of New Guinea, there to cruise for whales until the season arrives for going to Japan. We took our anchor about nine in the evening and the next day passed the Islands of Mayo and Tyfore where the Syren, Capt'n Coffin, was wooding, who left two days before. The next island of any note is Gomono which has a pleasant appearance, abounding in wood, but without inhabitants. On the shores are frequently caught fine turtle. Two boats were sent on shore to procure wood and shellfish. They returned in the afternoon with a fine turtle of the loggerhead kind which weigh'd upwards of two hundred weight. We had some of the shellfish cook'd for our supper and found them very fine. Saw the Island Geba. It is moderately elevated and shows marks of cultivation almost to the summit of the hills. It is famous for one of the best natural harbours in the world, so safe and secure is it that it



has acquired the name of Abraham's Bosom. We saw a whale ship going in as we pass'd by the entrance of the harbour. Falling calm, we had sight of the island two or three days in which time we fell in with and spoke the Ann, Capt'n Kemp, of London. As he was a particular friend of ours and in pursuit of the same object, it was concluded to keep company a few days.

November 11th: Saw the Island of Pappua or New Guinea. The next day we was so near that cultivated spots were very perceptible and with a *good* glass we could plainly perceive large villages or Nigaries with their adjoining plantations, which show'd that the Pappua's possess'd the knowledge of agriculture however ignorant they might be in other respects. Towards noon we saw a fleet of proas leave the harbour and stand over towards Mazao, a distant island. As I was anxious to have a nearer view of them, orders was given to intercept one that was nearest to us, but this we found was no easy matter, for so expert were they and so determined to avoid us that it was not until a boat was sent on one side while the ship was ran close to them on the other. In the meantime our two St. David natives were beckoning and calling in their language to them to come alongside and signs made them that we were friendly, by holding up a white flag. Your dear Father was in the boat and in endeavoring to intercept them came very near having a spear sent thro' him. Eager to make them come alongside he had approach'd so near the proa that the cars of the boat were entangled with their outriggers. At this moment one of the natives caught up a spear and pointing it at your dear Father with his body crouch'd would have darted it had he not instantly seiz'd a musket and presented it to him. On the sight of this formidable weapon he instantly dropped his spear and made his salam. The boat then return'd to the ship and the proa followed as soon as the chief man had had time to make his toilette which consisted of a gay chintz dressing gown with a cotton handkerchief folded narrow and knotted in front, leaving the crown of his head uncovered with the hair standing up eight or ten inches, Add to this gay appearance a *savage* countenance, much acar'd,



and you will form some idea of our guest, who on coming on board made two or three salams by bringing his face down to the deck, after which ceremony he was introduced to the cabin where wine and biscuits were placed before him of which by signs he was pressed to partake, but so much was his mind carried out with the different and to him wonderful objects that met his view that he could neither eat nor drink, much tho' it was evident the taste of our muscatel pleased his palate. He gazed at me and your little brother Charles with marks of astonishment. Beckoning Charles who went to him, he pass'd his hand several times over his face and then examined his light glossy hair to ascertain if it really was flesh and substance. He next caught a view of his own figure in a glass which seemed by the satisfaction he express'd to be highly pleasing, especially as he saw a couple of watch seals fastened to his ears and a gilt chain round his neck which were presented to him. After he had sufficiently admired himself he went on deck where a different scene had been acting with the native that attempted to spear your Father. He had his hands tied behind him and then secur'd by a rope to the quarter sail. The poor creature stood trembling, expecting every moment to be ran through with one of the lances that was show'd him to let him know it was in the Capt'n's power to retaliate. After punishing him sufficiently with fear, he was liberated and permitted to get into his boat which he did after a number of salams. The canoe was about fifty feet long with a large frame of wood each side which is call'd outriggers. This serves in the room of ballast. Over the top was rais'd a roof thatched with leaf of the cocoanut tree so as to exclude both sun and rain. When full man'd, it would accomodate from forty to sixty rowers. As we wished to see the contents of the canoe, one of our men got into and pass'd up a variety of articles of native manufacture. There was between twenty and thirty hatchets and the same number of cresses which are a large knife a foot and a half long, including the handle, several curious mats, curious made woven baskets. There were two pieces of carved wood which we were unable to give any name to



or to assign any use for them, when the Capt'n took it into his hand and laid his head on it, shutting his eyes as if asleep, which intimated that they us'd them for pillows. Another curiosity was an idol in the form of an old man, sitting in an armchair, the whole figure about a foot high. These articles all but the cutlery we purchased of them, giving in exchange handkerchiefs of which they seemed uncommonly fond. After stopping a couple of hours, they left us highly pleas'd with their trade. In the afternoon spoke the Catherine, Capt'n Younger, and being still in company with the Ann, it was agreed to stand in near the coast as would be safe in hopes of more proas coming off and bringing vegetables which they had been told were wanted and which they should be well paid for. The next day Capt'ns Kemp and Younger, being on board our ship, we discover'd four or five large proas coming toward us. The ships were hove to wait their coming and as they paddled up it was a curious sight on board. The head proa was the chief, seated on the roof of the house and rowed or rather paddled by about sixty men. The length of this royal barge was about eighty feet. Some of the others were double canoes and man'd as they are in time of war. The chief was a venerable looking old man, from the whiteness of his hair and his whole aspect I presume he was upwards of seventy. Care was taken not to let more than one proa come alongside at a time and not more than a dozen to come on board. The old chief declin'd coming up the sides, but seemed eager for trade. Their commodited consisted of cocoa-nuts, Lories, a few pompians, Paradise Birds in high preservation. After exchanging these articles for tin pots, handkerchiefs, iron hoops, etc, they took up a kind of scuttle and display'd about a dozen children of both sexes, apparently from six to twelve years, which they held up for sale. These wretched objects look'd as if nearly starv'd, and were offer'd for two fathoms of cotton cloth, which was bought in England for six-pence a yard. How I wish'd for the power to have redeem'd these little objects from their wretched condition, but to do this was utterly out of our power, and I saw the children laid down again in the



bottom of the boat and cover'd over with a sensation that I shall never forget as long as I live. Capt'n Younger understood the language and inquiry was made for different kinds of vegetables which we found they had at times, but this was not the right season, as their vegetation ..... Towards night they departed for the shore apparently well pleased with the purchases they had made. It is the custom of all the nations we see yet to have one man to beat a gong while the rowers keep time with their paddles and with a monotonous song which rises and falls at intervals; at a distance it sounds pleasant, but on a near approach it is almost deafening.

In the evening we parted company with the Ann and early next morning whales were seen and immediately boats were in chase from both ships, all eager for the prize, but after a long chase only one was taken, which was by one of our boats, the Catherine's boats getting nothing. In the course of the day, Buccleures Shoal was discover'd. It is mentioned in the directory, but is not correctly laid down. A boat was sent with an officer to examine it. When they returned they reported the Shoal to be about a mile in length and a quarter of a mile wide, they could not approach nearer than seven fathoms water owing to the tremendous swell. At noon we were about twelve miles from Wageo.

November 18th: We are now steering for the Aria Islands which is consider'd good whale ground and on the islands turtle may be obtained in abundance. Directly after dinner having stood as near to the land as was judg'd prudent, two boats were sent on shore for turtle. At seven in the evening they return'd with three very fine ones, besides several land crabs, which after feeding them with corn a few days, I am told are equal in flavor with a lobster. Nothing particular occurred until the 27th of November, when whales being seen, all the boats were instantly man'd and went in pursuit. It was five o'clock when the boats left the ship, the weather squally and threatening. With an anxious heart I watch'd all their motions with the glass, tho so distant were they that to the naked eye they could only be discover'd in the horizon as they rose with the swell which ran high. Directly one of the boats which prov'd to be your



brothers was rapidly approaching the ship, the whale to which he was fastened running with all the strength expiring nature lent her. As they approach'd near the ship, exhausted by loss of blood, the unweildy object slackened her pace and in a few minutes died close by the ship. By this time it was past sunset and the other boats as far off as the eye could discern. Your brother took his prize alongside and coming on board made all sail for the other boats, yet after making every exertion possible it was near nine o'clock before the other boats reach'd the ship, the weather tempestuous, lightning very sharp. Think, my dear Mary Ann, how anxious I must have been and how happy to see your dear Father arrive once more, owing to the roughness of the sea and anxiety of mind at being out so late. He had not a dry thread in his clothes and "this", thought I, "is the way that these 'Sons of Ocean' earn their money that is so thoughtlessly spent at home." Could some of the ladies whose husbands are occupied in this dangerous business have been here this few hours past, I think it would be a lesson they would not forget. It would teach them prudence and economy more powerfully than all the books ever written on the subject since the invention of printing.

November 29th: Early this morning I was awakened with "There she blows" close to the ship". After a pursuit of two or three hours, two fine whales were brought alongside and the weather wearing a threatening aspect every exertion was made to cut them in which was finish'd about twelve o'clock. All the remainder part of this day and the ensuing night, the weather was uncommonly squally. Such tremendous gusts of wind would strike the ship that would threaten to upset her without an inch of sail being set, when perhaps in ten minutes it would be moderate enough to carry all sail. Just before sunset two large water spouts put down very near the ship. Indeed the weather and elements altogether seem'd a perfect commotion. In the morning Sperm Whales were playing and leaping all round the ship, but the weather was too rough to attempt going after them. The ship under close reef'd topsails and obliged very often to clue them



up.

December 1st: It was a fine still morning, the sun intensely hot when the boats again went in pursuit of Sperm Whales. They had not been long away when one of them return'd bringing a man that was sun struck, when taking another in his room, continu'd the chase. It was a long time before signs of life appear'd tho' every means was us'd to restore him that was known to be efficacious in similar cases. After a fruitless chase the boats return'd when the man was bled or attempted to be in both arms, but only a few drops was taken from him. When he recover'd his speech, he complain'd much of his head, but as he is so much recover'd, we hope in a few days that he will be about again. This evening between eight and nine o'clock, the severest squall struck the ship we have ever yet experienced. It seems a miracle that her masts did not go over the side or the ship upset and what was still more alarming we were near the land, we being close in with Providence Islands. In about two hours the wind abated so that sail could be set on the ship and the next morning found us 20 miles from these dangerous Islands. We have now eight men that are incapacitated by illness from doing their duty. This is owing to the frequent squalls of rain, and the weather being warm, they are not careful to change their clothes tho' repeatedly told to do so and warn'd of the consequence of neglecting it.

On the 6th of December saw the Island of Mysory. We went near enough to see that it appear'd well cultivated. It is moderately elevated towards the sea, but the middle part appears mountainous. Between this and the largest of the Providence Islands three boats went after Sperm Whales and having the good fortune to take five brought them alongside. It was a majestic sight to see so many of these monsters together. While I stood looking over the side your dear Father who stood beside me exclaimed, "Here <sup>are</sup> rocks under the ship's bottom".. Indeed by wearing the ship we only escap'd, for the rocks were so near that you could distinctly see the stones. Judged these <sup>five</sup> ~~were~~ fathoms,



the water remarkably clear. Great Providence Isle about seven miles to the north of us.

December 13th: Little Charles was amusing himself with his play-things on deck, the man at the helm seized him by the arm which had been lately broken and threw him several feet from him on the deck, with such force as nearly dislocated his shoulder. I heard him scream and ran to him. His father was not in sight, but immediately on being told the circumstance corrected the man, who on being sent to his duty directly after, ran to the gangway and jumped overboard. A boat was immediately lowered and went in pursuit of him. They soon return'd with the Gentleman, who was sentenced to receive three dozen stripes for his pains. I could not plead much in his favor, for he was a most audacious character, having by his own account escap'd from a neighboring country jail in Female apparel, previous to joining the ship at Gravesend. Such characters as this it is that gives the masters of ships on these long voyages so much trouble that it is hardly safe to go to sea at this present time. From this date to the twenty-third, five whales were taken. Christmas day brings to our recollection the anniversary of your wedding day which we did not forget altho' it prov'd a busy day otherwise, as the boats went off and took 4 whales this day. This proves to be excellent ground for whales, but it requires a good ship, one that sails well, to keep the ground, as there is a strong current that sets out from the island of Mysory besides such tremendous squalls as require a good strong ship to withstand. Nothing particular occur'd to the twenty fifth of January, except our usual success in taking whales and a constant repetition of bad weather. On this day we discovered land, which prov'd to be a Group call'd the Traitor Islands. They were at least twenty miles off, they appear'd a quantity of barren rocky hillocks moderately elevated. The next day after making these islands whales coming in sight, the boats put off in high glee in the pursuit, particularly as they could distinguish some very large whales among the



shoal, a circumstance not common on this coast. Their endeavors were crown'd with success, but the weather falling calm, and it being near night, I was extremely apprehensive for the boats, who directly after sunset were not to be seen from the masthead. As they always carry a lantern in the boats, we hop'd as soon as it was dark to discover their lights, but in vain. Every eye was strain'd to catch a glimpse, no trace of them could be discern'd. The ship keeper, totally unfit for his office, knew not what to do. By this time it was near nine o'clock and no sight nor sound of the boats. My terror was such that it seem'd to me I should lose my senses, but seeing the ship keeper too much frighten'd to do anything I order'd a large fire to be lit on the Gabboose and to fire guns as a direction for the boats. This I had heard spoken of as proper to be done in such cases. To my inexpressible joy about nine o'clock word was brought me that they could at intervals discover the lights heave up with the swell. They continued their torching with fresh courage and in two hours more they came alongside, bringing two whales which they had tow'd six or seven miles and what was very singular they could see the ships hull while we could see no trace of the boats. The next time they put off after whales we were within seven or eight miles of the Traitors. I could discover nothing on them but the coconut and palm tree and these very scatteringly dispers'd in groups.

January 26th: This day the first we perceiv'd was several whales close to the ship, one was so near as to rub against the hopper. The boats were directly lower'd but without success. The weather is extremely boisterous and squally, raining every day and sometimes it comes down in torrents which confines me entirely to the cabin. This is but a trifling inconvenience compared to what those suffer who are continually exposed by being constantly wet. Most of the ships company are complaining and several are seriously ill. Everything that can be done for their comfort which humanity and a sense of duty dictates is doing, notwithstanding



several of them show strong symptoms of the scurvy which will compel us to seek some port of refreshment soon.

February 9th: This being a fine day and the decks being clear I have enjoy'd a promenade, which I hope will dispel the debility and weakness I find gaining ground upon me daily. While I was on deck a large tree came drifting towards us. It was taken alongside and hoisted on board. It was cover'd with the sea clam or Barnacles and had been a long time in the water by its appearance. It prov'd very acceptable prize to the cook.

February 15th: Saw Alice Islands, a small group, consisting of one very high and two low Islands cover'd with coco and plantain trees; these little fertile spots which speckle the Molucca Seas and are scatter'd over all the coasts and seas we cruise in serve to relieve the monotony of the scene. The eye wearied by a constant view of sea and sky loves to rest on these green spots, yet it is with a tantalizing sensation when one thinks of the fine fruit with which they abound that is totally out of our reach; here we took in five whales in doing which Mr. M., our second mate, had his leg very badly cut by his awkwardness altho' he took no whale to his boat.

5 Fathoms Gt. Prov. to the north 7 miles.

December 13th: T. W. struck Charles, jump'd over board

19 whales

23 3

25 4 more

January 1st: 2 more

3 2 more

4 2 more, lost one

15 1 more

16 4

25 5 Saw the Traitor Isle. William cut his hand

29 One more

39 3 more



February 4th & 5th: Tremendous weather

13 1 more

16 Saw Alice Island, got 5

March 1st: Towards Carolines.

March 5th: No land in sight, tho we are passing over the ground where the Carolines Isles are laid down in the charts. This creates anxiety.

March 6th: Squally tremendous sea, heavy squalls. 7 ditto.

8th: Strong winds

9th: Carried away the yard in the ships and split the sail all to pieces. Hard gales and heavy squalls.

10th: Heavy gales attended with severe lightning & thunder and torrents rain.

11th: Looking out for Guam, towards night saw the Isle, sounded in and came to anchor off Port Aprur.



Mrs. Jane M. Badger  
Middlebury, Virginia  
22117

43 PP.



Part of a "Sea Letter".

Written by Mary Hayden Russell to her daughter, Mary Ann Mount.

The ship "Emily of London" had evidently sailed thence early in January, 1823, encountered a severe gale and lost her boats and two men. The earliest recorded date seems to be Feb. 11th, passing Canaries, after which

Apr. 12th	at	Cape Good Hope
June 2nd	"	St. Paul's Island
July 6	"	Copang--Timor Island
Aug. 7	"	Passed through Eillola Passage into Pacific
Oct. 1	"	Returned to Ternate--Spice Islands
" 26	"	Left Kama--Celebes for Papuan Coast
Jan. 1	"	Still fishing near Papua
Feb. 15	"	Standing northwest--Alice Island
Mar. 10	"	Arrived St. Quan D'Apra--Guam

45 whales recorded to date.

This letter was probably sent home from that place. The ship was afterwards on the coasts of Japan - and returned to London before end of the year.

Capt. L. R. Jewett 1908

.....Wonderfully supported I found there was a reality in religion, but Oh! how much reason I found to lament my slow responding and that I had lived so far short of my valuable priviledges. This world and all that it contains appeared like vanity and in my estimation less than nothing.

My first inquiries were was there no lives lost. Alas! their looks soon convinced me my fears were too true. I had the moment before caught the name of Flardy passing in whispers. I was now convinced he was gone. This was one of the best men we had. I had particularly noticed him as being always on the alert, and the first at everything. The moment before the sea struck our cabin boy had been trimming our night lamp, and when I knew he had left the cabin to go forward, at the instant my fears were excited for him. A search was made for him, his name called, but he was not to be found. Alas! he was gone with the other to render up their account with hardly time to say, "Lord, be merciful to me a sinner". Our dear William then came to my room with the greatest calmness and presence of mind. "Mother", said he, "try to compose yourself. Let us hope for the best. The hull of the ship seems, as far as I can find, to have not sustained any injury, but should it be otherwise, and this night is to prove our last, we will go trusting in the



mercy of God." He then with a piece of tape, which was the only sounding line which could be found, proceeded with a lantern to examine the ruin here. To his great joy he found all tight. The remainder of this eventful night was spent by me in adoring the sparing mercy and goodness of God, who amidst our severe chastenings still had compassion and spared us, the utterly unworthy, for a little longer. The sea still continued to rage with indescribable violence. The sailors, terror-struck, were with much difficulty made to attend their duty. Towards noon the violence of the storm sensibly abated and a long interval of fine weather succeeded, which brought us up with the Canaries. We passed between the Island of Teneriffe and the Great Canary.

Feb. 11th

It was a pleasant morning, the atmosphere was particularly clear when I arose at daylight to view that stupendous mountain, the Peak of Teneriffe. The sight to me was truly sublime, the reflections of the rising sun spreading his beams on the snowy summit while the land on the opposite shore was half hid in obscurity. As the day advanced we saw a ship standing the same course as we were. Owing to our superior sailing we lost sight of her in a few hours.

Feb. 18th: Being nearly in the same latitude of the Cape de Verde, spoke a whaling sloop from Nantucket. We hailed the sloop requesting the master to come on board, as owing to the late storm we were deprived of boats to go to him. The master (C. Bunker) proved to be a man well known to thy dear Father, but quite a stranger to us, but he came from "our own native Isle of the Ocean". He was on that account made doubly welcome. He had been months out without obtaining a drop of oil, such is the precariousness of the business he was engaged in as well as ourselves. The usual questions where friends meet on the ocean of "What do you need?" was mutually exchanged and the day passed much to the gratification of all parties. While sailing on the vast trackless ocean, at a superficial view there was nothing to interrupt the dull monotony of the scene, but to one who views a providence in the minutest that fortitude and presence of mind that seldom forsakes him took him



object there is at sea a continual variety. Nothing seemed more effectually to lull my apprehensions of danger than watching the progress of those delicate little substances on water called by the sailors the "Men of War". To see those slight fragile beings, tossed from wave to wave, yet always preserving an equilibrium and carried in this way hundreds and perhaps thousands of miles, could I for a moment doubt of that divine protection which was thus wonderfully bestowed on the most (to us) insignificant object? While running down the trade winds it was our greatest pleasure (and one I would not have exchanged for the crowded scene of a ball room or any other fashionable resort) to view the spangled vault of Heaven in all its magnificence. Here is a scene that never loses its interest nor satiates the eye of the beholder, the Magellan. Clouds which to me was a new source of wonder claimed particular attention. progress towards our intended port which was Simon's Bay. In making necessary preparations for this voyage our friends in London started many objections and particularly thought we should feel the confinement of the ship irksome, that there would be a sameness, a monotony in the scenes, daily recurring, that would weary the mind by their frequency, but to me there is a constant variety which insensibly steals away the time and the return of the Sabbath frequently surprises me to know where the week has gone. Sunday March 18th: The weather being unpleasant had confined me to the cabin all day, but the evening proving fine I had a chair placed on deck to see the sun set. My whole mind was engaged in contemplating the one magnificence of the sun, when I heard a scream from my dear little Charles, who had the minute before left my side. Before I had time to inquire the cause his brother brought him to me with his arm broken just above the wrist joint. Such an accident on the land would have been distressing, but what were my feelings when I saw the child writhing in agony and no surgeon on board. He had been to the cabin and as he was returning, the ship giving a sudden lurch he fell off the fourth stair with his weight upon his arm which snapped it off. His dear father with that fortitude and presence of mind that seldom forsakes him took him



immediately below and with a man to steady the arm set it and splintered it up. The dear fellow bore the operation with a courage that would have done credit to a man. We are now making great progress towards the Cape of Good Hope. The weather from day to day is uncommonly fine. Little Charles is able to come on deck with his arm in a sling.

April the 4th: The pleasant sound of land once more salutes our ears. The sight was doubly welcome as we had for several days past a heavy swell with light winds, ship rolling and slatting from side to side. Next to a gale of wind, have ever found this weather the most unpleasant of any at sea. The finny tribes, however, are not any way of thinking, for they are gamboling and skipping in every direction.

April 12th

We have been for several days past rocked with a heavy sea and could make but little progress towards our intended port which was Simon's Bay which we reached this afternoon. At the first view of this little sequestered town, which bears the same name as the bay, it looks like something built for the amusement of children. The lofty hills, or rather mountains, in the background give it such a tiny baby-house look. There is very little to interest or amuse the mind here except the family of Mr. Osmond, which consists of himself, his wife and five children. We had an invitation to dine with his Excellency Commodore Bowls the Sunday after our arrival which like visits of ceremony in general we past very pleasantly at Mr. Osmond's seat which is by far the handsomest for our comfort by this truly hospitable family that hearts such as theirs could suggest. We had a ride out to one of his estates about four miles from the town, situated and I may say enclosed between two immense hills, except by the road that leads to it. The house is spacious and built in the cottage style. The pleasure grounds are handsomely laid out under the superintendence of Mrs. Osmond who takes the greatest delight in cultivating plants and flowers. She showed us several rare species of geraniums and other flowers, the only ones of the kind at the Cape, which she had preserved with great care and attention.



Nothing can surpass the beauty of the Myrtle Hedges which grow from three to six feet high. Rows of the scarlet flower'd geranium which grows spontaneously all over the hills, serve to enhance the beauty of each, when placed as they often are here by the side of each other. The Cape Myrtles as far surpass what we see growing in England as the Magnolia exceeds the common Water Lily. How often while viewing these excellent productions of nature have I wished my dear Mary Ann could be with me, since to convey an adequate idea of their beauty I found no language, or at least I possess not the power to do it.

In a hut constructed of reeds and thatch in one of the pleasantest parts of Mr. Osmond's seat lives a venerable old man, a slave, who had passed from one owner to another and still remains a fixture, he refuses his freedom, he says he planted the first tree that ever sprang up there and that his best days and strength have been laid out in ornamenting and adorning the scene, that where he had lived there he will die and be buried. A little spot sufficient to hold his last remains he has marked out and ornamented with the wild flowers that grow so abundantly in the mountains. From the best calculation he is a hundred years old, yet he is still hearty enough to cultivate a little garden. That with the addition of a few luxuries, such as tea and sugar, that his benevolent mistress takes care to provide, forms his principle living. The Malays are very abstemious, living almost entirely on vegetables and rice. It is no doubt owing to their temperance that we often see such aged people among this nation.

Having hired a wagon and six horses to visit Cape Town, on our return we turned off a little from the main road to visit Constantia, so long and so justly famed as producing the richest flavored wine (one or two kinds excepted) in the world. Here we saw everything relating to farming and wine making upon the largest and most improv'd scale of any in this country. Tho there are two more Constantias, yet not to be compared with the one we have just visited. Here was Dutch neatness and regularity in its highest perfection. Several choice samples of quite



recovered from the effects of his fever and enjoys better health than he  
wine were produced for our inspection, together with some delicious grapes  
and other fruit. The hospitality and politeness of the proprietor  
of this delightful estate we found to be as genuine as his wines, perhaps  
we relished our entertainment better for having ridden so many miles  
without stopping, as we were told the houses of entertainment were  
few and those very indifferent. Sussex Place us'd formerly to be an  
English Inn, but at the time we were there it was not us'd for this purpose.  
The present occupants think of again opening a house of this kind,  
as it is a great inconvenience to ride six or eight and twenty miles  
over a rocky road without stopping. Sussex was the half way house.  
We call'd there on our road to Cape Town, having had some slight acquaintance  
with the present occupants, Capt. & Mrs. Carmel, and were prevail'd on to stop all night.  
In the morning we saw the wolves tracks in every direction. The name of wolf generally strikes terror, but here  
at the Cape and indeed throughout this country they are quite harmless.  
Dr. Hartly, a physician at Cape Town, assured me that he had, when riding  
on horseback in the country, seen two or three of them at a time trotting  
along at his horses heels and that they did not offer to molest him any  
more than a spaniel. ~~making the Island of St. Paul's, which is famous for~~  
April 17th: Visited Fish Hook Bay, a bleak barren situation where the  
whale fishing is carried on. The lady of the house presented me with  
some of the finest grapes I ever saw, and what seems strange to us these  
fine grapes grew from a soil composed of beach sand which was blowing in  
one's eyes enough to blind us. If it were not for the very kind attention  
and politeness of Mrs. Osmond and family, we should find our time pass  
very dull here. The repairs of the ship are going on with all possible  
expedition and by the last of the month we hope to be in a condition  
for prosecuting our intended voyage with safety. ~~the number of men that~~  
May 8th: Have been on shore for the last time at Simon's Town, have  
bid goodbye to our dear friends, the Osmonds, with parting compliments  
to a few others. We are now well supplied with all the good things the  
Cape produces, dried fruits of all kinds and whatever else your dear  
Father thinks will be conducive to my comfort. Our dear Charles is quite



recovered from the effects of his fall and enjoys better health than he ever did since he was a year old. For the Isle of Amsterdam. The two

May 17th: We are once more embark'd on our voyage and bound to the Coast of New Holland. The winds continue to blow strong, the sea runs high. This I am assured is the worst part of the voyage. I must therefore endeavor to bear it with patience however unpleasant it is for the present. It is seldom I find a day suitable for going on deck, but when I do it seems quite a luxury after the confinement below for a week. And, walk on deck in the fresh air is delightful. What a comfort at that

May 18th: Hard gale of wind, but thro' much favor we do not suffer from it as much as I sometimes have. I shall certainly become a good sailor at last. Could I but conquer that dread which has appall'd me ever since our misfortune, I shall have nothing else to annoy my happiness. Nothing but time and a firm reliance on Divine Providence will do this. The boats were going for wood, I embraced the offer your dear father

From the 18th to the 30th May continual gales of wind. This is the inhospitable coast of New Holland, but little is known of its customs and manners or ever will be. I think its boisterous shores threaten defiance to any one who should be hardy enough to explore them. Your dear Father talks of making the Island of St. Paul's, which is famous for the fine fish caught there. Monday, June 2nd saw the Isle of St. Paul's, stood close in and hove the ship to a small sloop which lay close in by the rocks. Two boats were immediately dispatched to procure fish. Soon after the boats reach'd the shore the sloop slipped her cables and came to the ship. Being hail'd they answer'd they came from Simon's Bay, that they sailed in company with the King George and parted from her a few days before in a gale of wind. This we knew was altogether false, as we came direct from Simon's Bay, had lain there six weeks previous and no such vessel had left it. It was evident from the number of men that they were Pirates. They passed close under the stern. The Capt'n. called to them to keep off or he would fire into them. Not content with this they took another turn and passed so near that we could distinguish their features and countenances which bore the stamp of villains. They appear'd both to give up their intention, but seeing so many boats all



last night: He was once more embracing on our voyage and coming to the  
shore since he was a year or two before. He was very much recovered from the effects of his fall and enjoyed better health than he

-1-

-8-

sto'd with muskets, they bore away for the Isle of Amsterdam. The two  
boats returned loaded with some of the finest fish I ever saw. They  
resemble the American Shad, but fatter.

June 12th: The long wished for, long expected cry of "There she  
blows" was heard this morning. It set every one in motion. What a bustle!  
The first idea it produc'd was the ship is sinking, unacquainted as I was  
with such scenes. Here was a new scene to try my fortitude, my husband, the  
my son expos'd to these monsters of the deep. What a comfort at that  
moment to reflect that they were in the hands of God who was as willing  
as able to protect them. I could truly say, "They that go down to the  
sea in ships, that do business in the mighty waters, they seeeth wonderful  
works of the Lord". In five fathoms water, having crop'd the end of a

June 28th: Saw Tower Island, so called from its peculiar shape. As  
the boats were going for wood, I embraced the offer your dear father  
made me of going on shore. We landed safe, there being but little surf.  
It is destitute of inhabitants except buffaloes & deer. We saw none of  
them, but recent tracks show'd that they had fled at our approach. The  
shores was strew'd with red and white coral. We brought away a few  
specimens with some other curiosities. The long grass prevented my going  
far from the beach. The soil seems very rich and capable of producing in  
great abundance were it cultivated. Nature had produced as handsome  
parks by the regularity and size of the trees as you can imagine, ready  
stock'd with deer. The weather threatening rain we left this pleasant  
spot with regret. I believe I was the first European female that ever  
set foot on it. 29...30 Fine weather. I am enabled to sit on deck  
a great part of the day. I amuse myself with my needle since the weather  
grows fine. I find myself insensibly sliding into regular habits. I can  
hardly credit it myself that it is possible to have my family concerns  
conducted with so much comfort on ship board. How do I enjoy good weather.  
It conveys such a gladness to my heart that I can hardly express it. You  
can judge from my feelings that I have suffer'd from our late severe pass-  
age, which can so highly enhance the present change. The natives of

July 4th: This day we made the Island of Timor. I hear much talk of it



Copang which is the Dutch capital. The Portugese are part owners of this extensive island. It is judg'd to be fifty miles off, but we are rapidly approaching it with a fine wind and a smooth sea. The Governor of Copang and his lady are particular friends of your dear Father. I am already pre-possessed in their favor by the description he gives me of them.

July 5th: Saw Pulla<sup>1</sup> Semo, a small fertile island close to Copang.

July 7th: This morning as I was preparing to go on shore I heard a dreadful scream of distress. It was George Key, a sailor, who while doing something on the foreward fell on deck. His head struck the anchor such numbers that gives a peculiar interest to a voyage of this kind. I am told that the farther we go the more their numbers will increase.

July 6th: Safe anchor'd off Copang Harbor. I have been sadly frighten'd. We were in five fathoms water, having crop'd the end of a barrow, an English surgeon. He gives hopes that he will recover as his skull is not fractured as we at first feared. After ordering everything were groundless. Your dear Father will go ashore tonight and pay his respects to the Governor and tomorrow I shall accompany.

While he is gone on shore, having a leisure hour I will endeavor to convey to you some idea of the appearance of the town from where we lie. To the right is the Fort with the Dutch flag flying. About three miles to the left is the governor's country house, directly opposite the landing place is Government House, a large low building. The front entrance is supported by large white pillars. These are the most prominent features as the rest of the buildings, as far as I can see, are composed of thatch and makes a very humble appearance.

Several canoes filled with natives are round the ship, holding up their different articles of barter and calling vociferously for Pesoo in exchange. Their appearance is grotesque and singular in the extreme, to one who has not been us'd to see nature in its roughest form. Their dress is very simple, consisting of a strip of cloth tied round their middle. The countenances of many of them look very open and pleasant, but your Brother is cautious in trading with them, not suffering more than one or two to come on board at a time, as they are notorious for pilfering whatever comes in their way that is made of iron. The natives of Timor are of midling stature, of a dark copper colour, their hair straight



and black, their hands and feet are much smaller than a European's, they have no beards and owing to this peculiarity and the smallness of their feet and hands I thought the greater part of them were women. In exchange for knives (Pesoo) we got a supply of fowls, sweet potatoes, bananas, cocoa-nuts, &c. &c. A knife that cost threepence in England would fetch two fowls and fruit is proportionally cheap.

July 7th: This morning as I was preparing to go on shore I heard a dreadful scream of distress. It was George Key, a sailor, who while doing something on the foreyard fell on deck. His head struck the anchor and his right leg is broken in two places. What a mercy if it must happen that we are in port where medical assistance is at hand. Your brother went immediately on shore and returned in a short time with Dr. Barrows, an English surgeon. He gives hopes that he will recover as his skull is not fractured as we at first feared. After ordering everything for the man's comfort that his unhappy situation would admit, we went on shore, your dear Father, myself and little Charles. Before we reached the landing we could discover a carriage and four in waiting. It was the governor's with a coachman and two footmen, ready to attend us. Crowds of people had assembled on the beach to witness the uncommon spectacle, the sight of an English woman. As it is a place where the whale ships touch for refreshments, a white man was no novelty, but a female created a wonderful commotion. The road for a considerable distance was lined with both sexes, Chinese and natives of all sizes and ages. Our reception from Madam Hasart was friendly and polite. She is apparently about six and thirty, of middle size, and appears to have been very handsome indeed. Her goodness of heart shines out so conspicuously on her countenance that in the opinion of those who know her best she may be still thought handsome. In a half an hour after my introduction to her and the Governor I found myself quite at home. Our dinner was served in the greatest style and did credit to our kind entertainers. There were three women, two men and two boys that waited at table. The house slaves are neatly dressed, the women in check cotton Kines and blue cotton short gowns, the men and boys in long, loose gowns made of India print. The



women's hair comb'd up and formed into a Knot fasten'd on the top with a long silver pin or Rener. The men have a small handkerchief of different colors (but red seems to be the favorite color) tied gracefully round their heads. Madam Hasart is a native of Batavia, her father a French physician, her mother a Creole of the country. She is consequently nearly white. She was carefully educated by her father, who had good sense and generosity enough to think that women have souls (quite contrary to the prevailing idea in this part of the world) and took pains to instil into her mind such principles and ideas as he thought would lead her in time to know the value of it. I could soon perceive by her conversation, tho' carried on in broken English, that she possessed a fund of information on every subject that occurred. They are very solicitous that I should stop with them and let your Father proceed on his voyage without me. This I could sooner agree to than to stop at the round Cape, but I have embark'd in a cause that nothing but sickness shall make me desert, but I am wandering from my subject which was to give you some account of the amusements of the day. The music formed entirely of the Tea, coffee and sweetmeats were brought in directly after dinner. We then were invited to walk in the pleasure grounds which are very taste-fully laid out. At the bottom of a long gravel walk, border'd with orange and pomegranett trees, is a pond dug out like a basin. The water is led to it by a trunk which admits it at one side and leads it out at the other, which being turned into various channels serves to water the adjacent plantation. pupils. It was surprising to see how well they understood. Towards evening visitors began to collect and we soon had the drawing room filled with all the rank and fashion that Copang could boast. Some of the ladies were very handsome and having their faces well Chenam'd (rubbed over with slaked lime) might well pass in the evening for white women. The simple dress of the country was not unbecoming and being made of good European prints, I liked them, better in it than the appearance of one who striving to outdo the others was dressed partly English which not agreeing with the rest of her habiliments, made a very grotesque appearance. a lighted bamboo for a torch. The road leading from the



Perhaps you will like to hear something respecting the decorations of the house of a governor of a remote Island as Timor. The rooms are very lofty and about thirty by twenty feet. Four very large windows, framed and sashed, but on account of the heat of the country not glass'd, served to admit air as well as light, with shutters outside to keep out the wet. These were furnished with English print drapery curtains in a plain neat style. At each end of the room stands an ebony sofa covered with print to match the curtains. Large Turkish rugs lie before the sofas and the intervening spaces round the room filled with arm'd chairs with cane seats. The walls were hung with good prints on different subjects, well framed and glassed. A pair of card tables, a pair of large gilt frame looking glasses, three elegant fancy time pieces, one very valuable, finished the furniture of the drawing room. In the dining room were two large upright organs, a high chest of drawers which I found was in the room of a sideboard, two elegant, musical time pieces, a large eight day clock, sofas, pictures, looking glasses, etc. The floors are neatly painted but no carpets. A band of music formed entirely of the governor's own slaves were placed in the gardens. I was greatly delighted with their performance, but more with their appearance when Madam Hasart took me out to see them, little boys with tamborines, and one little fellow with a drum was so small that he lay down on the grass to play, several playing the violin apparently not more than seven years old. The master musician, an old man, seemed quite delighted with the praise I bestowed on his pupils. It was surprising to see how well they understood time. There was not a discordant sound throughout the band, the composed mostly of children from seven to twelve years old. This island is subject to a fever of a most malignant kind. We thought best therefore to decline their urgent solicitations to spend the night, as there is a chilly air towards the morning that to one unaccustomed to such a climate is very pernicious to health, but it was settled that I should come on shore every morning and return to the ship in the evening.

We returned to the waterside in the carriage, one footman preceding us with a lighted bamboo for a torch. The road leading from the



governor's seat to the shore is mostly level and cover'd with gravel. It is a mile and a half long and made entirely at his own expense and for the good of society at large. Last July 13th: We have now been here a week and I have not missed one day going on shore. Our time has passed very pleasantly. Madam Hasart is very domestic. We read, sew and knit alternately. She has learnt to make tatting, double netting and several other stitches already. In the cool of the evening we walk sometimes on the seashore, sometimes we have a ramble in the adjacent woods and trace the little river that supplies the fish and which after following for about a mile terminates in a spring that issues out from between two large trees; the water possesses mineral properties and is counted very wholesome by the inhabitants. These venerable woods form a part of the property of Mr. Tilman, the secretary to the governor, and the next principal man in Copang. The old family mansion is immensely large and appears to have stood ever since the Dutch first had possession of the land. It has withstood the wear of the elements and from the clumsiness of the architecture bids fair to stand several generations more. Within a few years an aunt of Mr. Tilman's died and left a thousand slaves, an immense sum of money, in gold and silver, and more than one half of Copang in houses and lands which was divided between three brothers. The eldest brother has very bad health and is seldom seen, the second is Mr. Secretary and the youngest, Mr. Henrique, is general in chief of all the Dutch force in the island. They are now prosecuting a war with great vigour with a native chief whose name is Abbenuman. He is an inveterate enemy to the Dutch and fights sturdily for his independence. I have been introduced to Mrs. J. and Mrs. H. Tilman, who appeared very amiable domestic women. Mrs. J. Tilman plays the harp and piano forte, but she neither understands Dutch nor English, so of course we are not very good company. Your dear Father finds himself quite at home here as he speaks a little Malay and all the gentlemen understand and speak a little English. Mr. Hazart and Mr. Tilman both have a billiard table in their house, in



the cool of the evening they amuse themselves with billiards.) There has not been any account from the army for several weeks and they seem very anxious to hear the result of an engagement that was daily expected at last account.

July 25th: Mr. H. Tilman has arrived in town and brings news of the death of Abbenuman, their old foe. Great hopes are now entertained of bringing the natives to submit, as the Dutch have a strong party among the natives that will now declare in their favor.

July 29th: Our coming to Copang at this time seems very apropos as we find by the preparations that the governor's eldest son is soon to be married to the daughter of the elder Mr. Tilman, a young lady about fifteen. They have a curious custom here of decorating the rooms on such occasions entirely with artificial flowers, draping ceiling, and every part of the house indoors is dressed in this way. The dress of the bride-to-maids are trim'd with two or three rows of artificial flowers, composed chiefly of white and green. They begin therefore sometime previous to the celebration of marriage to make flowers of various kind, which is done by the female slaves under the superintendence of the mistress. We happened fortunately to have a box of elegant flowers which we presented for the occasion, besides different kinds of wine, especially Constantia. That perhaps never found its way to Copang before. When a person of consequence is married nothing can exceed the style and expense of the entertainments which frequently last a fortnight or three weeks. Nothing is attended to at that time, but festivity and rejoicing. The friends of both parties strive to outvie each other in magnificence and expenses. The simple article of a comb for the bride, presented by her uncle, Mr. Secretary Tilman, is valued at a thousand dollars. The young folks here are extremely fond of dancing, especially waltzing. All their entertainments conclude with a ball. The governor has not down children by his present lady, but as she is particularly fond of children, she has no less than nine in her home now of various sizes that she is godmother to and to stand in that relation here seems quite a different affair from what it is considered in England. Here whatever may be the



rank or condition of the parents the sponsors (if they choose) are entitled to take the child home, adopt it into their own family. They consider themselves bound solemnly to educate and provide for their nominal children and if their wealth permits to establish them in life. Three of Madam Hazart's adopted children were motherless and one, a little mulatto girl, was left without father or mother. They all seemed perfectly contented and happy. They attended a day school kept by the Rev. Mr. \_\_\_\_\_; at the close of the day it was the custom of these little ones to assemble on a grass plat in front of the house and form a ring when one of the elder children would sing a stanza and all the rest join in chorus. Listening to their play one fair morning I observed they often made use of the word "Capple". This attracted my attention, when I highly was soon convinced by the little I understood of the Malay language that your dear Father was the subject of their song. When I mentioned it to Madam Hazart, who was viewing with benevolent pleasure their little sports, she in the best manner her imperfect English would allow explained to me the subject. It was literally thus: "There lies the ship that bring good Capt'n, no get drunk good capt'n, bring cloth for Thebiah and sell for Rupeea, bad Capt'n, come here, get drunk, what for get drunk bad Capt'n." What a tribute of artless praise was this! Gratifying to me, you, my dear Mary Ann may be assured, box a beautiful diamond. July 30th: For this several days past our amiable Hostess has been superintending the making and packing of all kinds of delicacies the Island affords, piles of plantains, oranges, green and ripe coconuts, yams, sweet potatoes, etc. lie in every direction ready to be sent on board. This island produces a sweet kind of Tamarind that requires much less sugar in preserving than the common kind. She Buffaloes, sheep and fowls are already sent on board in great abundance. They have a method here of preserving milk by boiling it down with a proportion of lump sugar. It is then made into small cakes and exposed in the sun when it hardens and will keep a long time in this state. A small piece in a cup of tea serves both purpose of sugar and cream. Two fine milch goats are sent on board so we shall not want for



milk soon. Happening to notice some children among the domestics that I had not seen before, Madam Hazart informed me that they were sent to the governor from the Island of Solo as payment of a debt, that she was very sorry to have them for they had more people than they could find employment for. She observed that her principles and feelings would not allow her to sell human beings, but she had frequently given them to such of her friends as she was assured would use them well. Beckoning to the new comers they came on, when Madam Hazart said if I would accept one of them I might have my choice. They were three fine looking child girls, apparently about nine years old. I accordingly selected one that from her intelligent countenance I thought would answer. When we asked her by signs if she would go in the ship with me, she appeared highly delighted. She will go on board tonight, as we have but one more day to stop and that must be chiefly devoted to leavetaking visits, which will be particularly unpleasant after having experienced such unbounded kindness.

July 31st, Went on shore for the last time. The governor and his lady desired that your Father and myself would think if there was any one thing that was in their power to procure for us that we were not supplied with; we thank'd them with grateful hearts for all their kindness and assured them we had everything we needed in great abundance. When we were about to come away Madam Hazart took from a box a beautiful diamond ring and with a grace peculiar to herself placed it on my finger, saying, "My dear Mrs. Russell, this ring I had made for you. It is set with my own hair. When you look at this think sometimes of your friends at Timor who will never forget you". She then presented me with an elegant gold chain and a Chinese fan of great value and curious workmanship. It was in vain I pleaded my utter inability to make any return. She wished for none, she said, but my acceptance. At a late hour we bade adieu to our affectionate friends with hearts deeply impressed with a sense of gratitude. The next morning, August the 1st took our anchor and left the harbour, intending to cruise for a few days just out of sight, and then send in a boat for two sailors, who had deserted and who supposing us gone would then show themselves. The governor having issued



orders to have them apprehended wherever they could be found; according August the 4th sent in the boat and brought one away, the other was not to be found.

August 3rd: Saw the Island of Lombloin, went close in with the land so as to see the cultivation, little towns were scattered the whole length of the Island which appear'd under the highest state of improvement. The day was uncommonly fine and in the course of a few hours, we had twenty four proas round the ship, but did not seem inclined to trade or come very near. If all our voyage were to be as pleasant as this, coming to sea might be considered a pleasureable excursion. Timor straits thro' which we are now sailing are from 27 to 50 miles wide and as the winds are light and baffling at this season of the year, we are obliged to tack from shore to shore, so that we have an opportunity of seeing all the towns and harbours as we pass up.

August 4th: This afternoon sent a boat on shore to trade with the natives for corn and different kinds of fruit; iron hoops and knives makes the best trade here.

August 7th: Saw Paula Cambang, discovered a ship in shore. August 10th saw the Island of Dilly, a Portugese settlement famous for its oranges which are counted the best in the world. It abounds in all kinds of refreshments for ships, but it is almost certain death for Europeans. Some ships that have put in there to refresh have left the greatest part of their crews behind. It was at this Island that Capt'n Moses Bunker died of the prevailing fever when he commanded the Minerva of Nantucket, the first ship and I believe the last that ever sail'd from America to the Coast of Timor on a whaling voyage.

August 11th: Saw the Island of Kisser which abounds in excellent sheep in addition to the various productions of other Islands in these Seas. At noon the ship stood so near the Island I could plainly view the towns situated on the tops of the hills. I counted four which appear'd populous and most delightfully situated. They are called Nizary's. Your Father went on shore with two boats to see if he could make trade for fruit &



inhabited. It has a very pleasant appearance and afford coconuts and vegetables, but with an injunction not to take any Sheep, as our decks were already sufficiently crowded with live stock. In about three hours we returned with such a cargo that our deck when they were all passed weather with severe lightning and distant thunder. 30th saw whales and out of the Boats resembled Fulton Market more than anything else I could after a toilsome chase succeeded in taking two. Aria Islands, three in compare it to here. For the first time I saw the China orange in perfection, in sight. These islands are destitute of inhabitants, but abound with excellent turtle, they are connected by reefs which at low water the large kind. Fine Apples they brought off in abundance, but not being quite ripe, we lost many of them. The natives of this Island are quite civilized and appear'd to be a harmless quiet people. The trade that

September 3rd: This morning early saw whales, when four boats suits this Island best is cutlery and powder. The latter article they are lower'd in pursuit. My dear husband was soon fast to one and in prize very highly and will give any price you ask in exchange. The weather still remains fine, and we are every day in sight of land abundant in cultivation. It is now the 23rd of August, and since leaving view the whole scene with a glass. My terror was extreme, and as he had Kissar we have pass'd Pulla Dama, Banda, Amboyna (where your dear Father sat down low in the stern to keep the boat balanced I concluded him more in a former voyage had the misfortune to bury his Mate, Hezekiah Coffin, hurt than he really was. Under this impression I was with difficulty and where he only escap'd the jaws of death himself), Manipa, Ceram, and this morning we are off Pula Pesang. Two boats are gone on shore for board when I found, as is often the case, that my fears had outrun the wood. This afternoon the boats return'd. Your dear Father went on shore

and seeing the rocks cover'd with beautiful spotted shells he employ'd

September 4th: I find the weather on this coast very different himself while the people were getting down wood in picking shells, some- from what we have had this several months past, frequent heavy squalls of times up to his neck in water, which together with the extreme heat of wind and rain, sometimes accompanied with thunder and lightning. The the sun had such an effect on him that coming on board he was seiz'd squalls come so sudden that for a few minutes it appears as if every with a violent retching. As soon as possible I gave him an emetic which in mast must inevitably go over the side and in a half an hour it is almost a few hours by casting off an amazing quantity of Bile quite relieved as fine.

him. Had I not took this excursion and thus disturb'd the Bile the conse-

September 8th: This day we had the sight of a large whale. Your quence would have been in all probability a severe fever incident to this dear Brother having taken one of the largest kind, well may they be called

the monsters of the deep. Indeed the view of such a monstrous animal

August 24th: We are now steering for the Geba Passage, saw the sporting in its own element must naturally excite the most sublime ideas Islands of Boo and Joey.

of the Creator of all things and lead us to wonder and adore in silence.

August 25th: Saw Raib Island, the weather very calm and the heat

September 17th: For this some days we have been going towards the very oppressive.

David's Islands, which are three in number and thickly inhabited, and

August 27th: Off Geba and Syang. 28th Saw Pidgeon Island which is



inhabited. It has a very pleasant appearance and afford cocoa-nuts and wild Pidgeons in abundance. 29th Pass'd close by Wazes Island, saw the Yawl Island at twenty five miles distance, today we have had very squally weather with severe lightning and distant thunder. 30th saw whales and after a toilsome chase succeeded in taking two. Aria Islands, three in number, in sight. These islands are destitute of inhabitants, but abound with excellent turtle, they are connected by reefs which at low water are in many places quite dry. The weather here is extremely variable and squally, but it is consider'd good ground for whaling.

September 3rd: This morning early saw whales, when four boats are lower'd in pursuit. My dear husband was soon fast to one and in drugging another had his boars head completely broke off and his wrist joint badly sprain'd. The whales were so near that I could distinctly view the whole scene with a glass. My terror was extreme, and as he had set down low in the stern to keep the boat balanced I concluded him more hurt than he really was. Under this impression I was with difficulty kept from fainting. To my great relief your dear Father was soon on board when I found, as is often the case, that my fears had outrun the reality.

September 4th: I find the weather on this coast very different from what we have had this several months past, frequent heavy squalls of wind and rain, sometimes accompanied with thunder and lightning. The squalls come so sudden that for a few minutes it appears as if every mast must inevitably go over the side and in a half an hour it is altogether as fine. Their pronounce in their way sounds truly singular. These people

September 8th: This day we had the sight of a large whale. Your dear brother having taken one of the largest kind, well may they be called the monsters of the deep. Indeed the view of such a monstrous animal sporting in its own element must naturally excite the most sublime ideas of the Creator of all things and lead us to wonder and adore in silence.

September 17th: For this some days we have been going towards St. Davids Islands, which are three in number and thickly inhabited, and



this morning early we were close up with them. The natives are a simple harmless people. Last voyage your Father took two of these simple Islanders at their request and after the Japan season he return'd one, the other died in a decline. We were soon surrounded with canoes and the King's canoe among the rest, who was but little distinguished from his subjects. They had learn'd to speak a little English from Lorei, the native who had been so long on board. He is the king's second son, the eldest and the third son accompanied their Father. The first inquiry of the Capt'n was for Lorie, but it seems his two wives, fearful that he would take another voyage, had prevented him by force from coming on board. The ship's name and the Capt'n's was very familiar with the most of them and as Lorei had report'd his good treatment on board many of them were extremely anxious to go with us, indeed it appear'd as if we might soon have mann'd the ship with volunteers. These people expressed but little wish for anything but fish hooks and iron which they were extremely eager for. We had the king and his two sons down in the cabin. Your dear Father dressed the king in a white shirt and a new straw hat and presented him with knives, fish hooks, iron hoops, etc. The dress of these natives is a strip of cloth made from the rind of the cocoa-nut, but they have a frightful way of frizzing their hair which serves to protect them from the sun as well as a hat. As we were two hands short, the Capt'n agreed to take the king's third son, a fine looking lad, apparently about twenty, and another of the same age by the name of Bookalap Boohoo. The most of their names ended with the hoo which to hear them pronounce in their way sounds truly singular. These people have not a warlike weapon among them, not so much as a bow and arrow. When Lorei was ask'd if they ever fought at St. Davids "Oh, yes, plenty fight," he said. "But how do you fight, Lorei?" "Oh, plenty pull hair". This was all the idea they had of war. Their chief subsistence is coconuts and fish. Bread of any kind they had no idea of, nor is there any vegetable whatever as a substitute. In stormy weather when fishing is not practicable in these small canoes, these islanders suffer greatly whom he had two, a lady and her daughter, had observ'd what a difference



from hunger. The king claims the head of every fish that is taken as his undisputed property. They do not appear to have any religious ceremonies among them, except dancing in a ring at the full of the Moon. They had not the least idea of future rewards or punishments. The visible objects that appear in the full Moon they told us, was an old Man with a Basket of fish on his back. The two natives we intended to take were dress'd immediately in a suit of clothes. Bucalaps friends persuaded him strongly not to go, but without effect; on the natives leaving the ship the king was presented with three sheep, two females and one male. Your dear Father presented Lorei with three fowls, 2 hens and a cock when he left the ship the voyage before, besides different kinds of garden seeds, but the rats that are very numerous destroy'd the seed as soon as they were put in the ground; owing to their ignorance in breeding fowls they had been unsuccessful, so that their stock remain'd the same. The next day after leaving St. Davids we encountered a heavy squall of wind or rather gale, as it lasted six hours. The poor natives were at their wits end expecting every moment the ship would upset and they shout'd "perish", when they found the ship could endure such winds and not mind it they seem'd altogether as much elated in proportion to their fears.

September 22nd: Saw the Island of Pupua or New Guinea twenty-five miles distant the next day. Saw a ship come up and spoke her. She was the Nearchus, Capt'n Baker of Calcutta, from Manilla, bound to Calcutta. Had been recently struck with lightning which took his fore and mizen masts from the skysail to the step. Capt'n B. came on board and had the goodness to send us a bag of Cocoa with several other little things which he thought would be useful to us. In return we presented him with a fine cheese. He stopped two or three hours which gave us an opportunity of writing by him to our owner and to you, my dear Mary Ann, which I hope you will in due time receive. In the morning previous to our speaking Capt'n Baker, he had spoken a ship from London, a South Seaman, call'd the Cape Packet. He observ'd to us that his lady passengers of whom he had two, a lady and her daughter, had observ'd what a difference



there was in the manners of the two Capt'ns; the master of the Cape Packet could not be distinguished from his sailors in any respect, while your dear Father seem'd what he really was: "This is easily account'd for." said your Father, "that capt'n is a Yankee!" "Indeed," replied he, "if I did not think so at the time; had you been a Yankee, Capt'n Russell, you would not have seen me on board here, for I detest and despise those Yankees!" Here was prejudice carried to its utmost extreme. Little did he think at the moment that he was conversing with two of those detestable beings. I think when he finds it out (which he certainly will, as he had a man on board that had known your father many years) it will cause him to discard such useless prejudices for the future.

September 23rd: We are now cruising off the Cape of Maratta, a place that has for many years been a noted resort of sperm whales, especially at this season of the year. The weather here is extremely variable, shines and showers succeed each other several times in the course of the day. Hitherto we have not had any serious illness on board which may be attributed solely to the unwearied care your dear Father has taken to keep them dry and clean and in attending to the first symptoms of every complaint. I have often had reason since I left England to bless the little knowledge I had of medicine, as it has contributed to take a great care off the mind of my husband. He examines the cases and reports them to me; this is his part and I am happy to say the medicines I have administer'd have never fail'd of their desir'd effect.

October 1st: We are drawing near to the Island of Ternat, where your dear Father has many acquaintances, as he stopped there twice during last voyage and the first time he was detain'd better than a month owing to the mutiny that broke out while lying there. As we, who were then in America, heard so many various and contradictory reports, I shall here insert for your satisfaction, the particulars of that disagreeable scene that ended so fatally for one of the misguided objects. It is a fact well known that the Dutch in the Malacca's and Celebes Islands are extremely rigid in their discipline. Ternat being an island where whale



ships frequently stopped for refreshments, the sailors going on shore on liberty, had prov'd so riotous and disturb'd the inhabitants so much that Mr. Nice, the governor, had found it necessary to issue orders for all sailors to go on board their respective ships at sunset except such as were waiting for their captains. On the eighth of March eighteen hundred twenty one half the ships company had liberty to go on shore with strict injunctions to be on board at sunset. They were told it was the governor's order and that they were on no pretence to disobey it. They accordingly all return'd except two who stopped on shore all night and came on board next morning. Previous to this they had enter'd into a combination that none of people on board should be struck let their crime be what it would, that the Capt'n should not have the liberty of correcting a prentis, if he attempted it they were all to come in a Body and rescue him. On the strength of this combination when your dear Father the next day inquired why they were not on board at the appointed time, Neagle, one of the sailors, was very impertinent, using such language as it was impossible any master of a vessel could take without losing all his authority. He accordingly struck the man with the flat of his hand, when in a moment he found himself surrounded by the people and one of them struck your dear Father on the head with a piece of plank. He was nearly stun'd by the blow for he has no recollection how he clear'd himself, but his powerful arm sent one to the right and another to the left and getting into the boat he went on shore and stated his situation to the governor, desiring him to take these mutinous men out of his ship. Capt'n Mattinson was there at the time, and as he was an old master your dear Father took his advice in all he did down from the moment application was made to the Dutch governor. Whatever was done became an act of theirs and your dear Father had nothing further to do with it. Mr. Nice said he would send an officer, Leftenant Barns, with five or six soldiers and take the men. Your dear Father observ'd to Mr. Nice that from the spirit they were in he expected they would resist. "Then," he replied, "I shall be under the necessity of shooting them." He accordingly give instructions to the officer to take all necessary



means to prevent the effusion of blood, but if they stood out to fire on them. Following his instructions when he came on board he desired your Father to call the disaffected on the quarter deck, that he might enquire into the motions of their conduct. This he did and they refus'd to come. Lieutenant Barns then call'd them. They refus'd, swearing they would not come for any Dutch Rascal. After calling them three times he proceeded to fire over their heads. In the mean time the men had arm'd themselves with hand spikes, iron poles and whatever came in their way. When the soldiers fir'd over their heads, "Come on, boyd," said they, "we are not to be frighten'd with blank cartridges. Now is our time and we're rushing upon the soldiers." When the word was given to fire and in an instant three lay extended upon the deck. The rest seeing their comrades fall immediately surrender'd, they were all taken on shore, the wounded to the hospital, and the others to the fort for further examination. The names of those that were wounded were Beadle, Ellis and Smith who died in a few days of his wounds. Beadle and Ellis recover'd and were sent to Java together with three others, as these were the ringleaders of the mutiny. The rest that were concerned were very glad to return to their duty and behav'd themselves with the greatest propriety the rest of the voyage.

October 2nd: This day we had two very heavy squalls after having calms and light air, which made them for the short time they lasted the more severe.

October 3rd: Saw Ternat; a high mountain, is all we can yet see of it, being thirty miles distant. This mountain has a volcano that frequently emits smoke. It has in times past sent forth torrents of lava and other volcanic matter. There is a crater at the top which admits of ones going down six hundred feet below the surface of the peak. Mr. Devonbody, Mr. Burney's agent, had the curiosity to go down.

October 4th: We have just cast anchor in Ternat Harbour and are making preparations for going on shore. Mr. Devonbody's house is but a short walk from the beach and like most of the houses in this country look



but indifferent outside, but when you enter the scene changes. You find every convenience and most of the luxuries of life. This observation only applies to a few, as the principle part of the habitations are as miserable in the internal as the external appearance. The free people of Ternat form but a small portion of the inhabitants which amount to nearly five thousand, as a gentleman of any property must have fifty or sixty slaves. Some few that are the richest own two or three hundred. These live in small huts built of bamboo, scatter'd here and there on the estate of their masters. They are extremely indolent and would of their own accord do nothing, but eat and sleep. The common dress of the slave is the same as Timor, Copang, but when the master and mistress pay a visit, then the slave is decorated with fancy ornament, such as hair pins, necklaces, rings, eardrops, etc, which are sometimes made of topaz or paste, but oftener real diamonds, large or small, according to the wealth and rank of their master. Dancing is an amusement very much practiced among the young people, to prepare their dress and ornaments for a ball is considered the principal business of their lives. Both sexes marry very young, the ladies in particular. They think fourteen a very proper age and I am told that many marry at twelve and thirteen. This seems strange to one acquainted with European manners, who have been in the habit of considering marriage as attended with great and important duties to which a child of that age, however amiable, would be totally unfit. I mentioned just now that we had three of Mr. Sandy's Mr. Devonbody, who was for many years Mr. Burney's agent, died in a few months after your dear Father left here last voyage. Today I was introduced to his widow and never was I more disappointed. Judging of the wealth she was in possession of, I expected certainly to see a lady respectably clad, not, of course, in the extreme of European fashion, but in some degree suitable to her rank and situation. Instead of that she was dress'd in her kine and Kebiah, made of materials but very little, if any better than her house slaves. To have judged from her looks I should have had thought her about sixty-five, but I am told her



age does not exceed forty. Her whole aspect indicated a person of extreme parsimony and anxious for nothing but to accumulate money. This I soon found was the leading trait in her character, but sickness and care had made sad havoc with her constitution, and it was evident that however great her possessions, she had not a great while to enjoy it. Poor woman! I sincerely pity her misguided mind which has taken this unhappy bias, abounding in riches and tho' utterly unable to enjoy what a bountiful Providence has bestowed upon, still grasping with a miser's hand after money. She has no child living, but her husband had one by a former wife who was at an early age sent to London, to receive his education. He has now finish'd his English studies and gone to Holland to study Dutch. He is now daily expected at Ternat to take possession of the property left him by his Father. Mrs. Devonbody seems very anxious for his arrival. We began to be a little more sociable than I at first imagined we could be. Mrs. Devonbody begins to recollect a little English and I am daily learning a little Malay, but our best assistant is Mrs. Devonbody's nephew, son to the governor of Gonontally, who speaks very good English. He is residing at present with his aunt, besides two brothers and three sisters, more of the same family, As there is more agreeable society at Ternat than any of the Moluccas, Amboyna excepted. When we find ourselves unable to comprehend each others meaning Sandy is called, the name of the young man I alluded, who soon interprets for us. I mentioned just now that we had three of Mr. Sandy's sisters here; the eldest, Miss Maria, is about seventeen, slim and tall in her person with a fair Chinese countenance, but the most indolent being that nature ever produced. She is actually too lazy to talk. "From morn to noon, from noon to dewy eve" she stands about the house gazing at vacuity, a listless nobody, regarding none, and I believe but little regarded herself.

to the deck after  
which ceremony he was  
introduced to the

Dec. 7:5 whales saw rocks under our ship

12 5 more

Jan. 3rd: Lost in the fog



Note: These two pages seem interpolated.. 6 pages at Kema and along-  
10 pages. side.

(It seems while the Syren was lying off and on at the island the natives were very friendly and came on board in great numbers to trade for knives, fish hooks, etc. When without the least provocation they rose upon the ships company, kill'd the carpenter and one seaman and wounded several more and for some minutes had charge of the ship, but Capt'n Coffin succeeded at last in driving them over board when they took to their canoes and made their escape.)

Your dear Father was on the boat and in endeavoring to intercept, came very near having a spear sent thro' him. Eager to make them come alongside he had got so near the proa the oars of the boat were entangled with their outriggers. At this moment one of the natives siez'd a spear and pointing it at your dear Father with his body crouch'd would have darted it, had he not instantly siez'd a musket and presented it. On the sight of this formidable weapon he drop'd his spear and salam'd the boat, then return'd to the ship and after the chief man had had time to make his toilet, which consisted of a gay chintz dressing gown with a cotton handkerchief folded narrow and brought round to knot in front, leaving the crown of his head uncover'd with the hair standing up eight or ten inches in length. Add to this gay appearance a savage countenance much scar'd and

you will form  
some idea of our  
guest who on  
coming on board  
made two or three  
salams by bringing  
his face down  
to the deck after  
which ceremony he was  
introduced to the

Left Kema October 26th.  
Nov. 2nd squally  
Nov. 6th: Saw ship going into Geba  
" 9th: Spoke to Ann  
" 11th: Saw the Isle of New Ginea  
" 12th: Saw proas  
" 15th: Took a whale  
" 18th: Saw the Aria Isle  
Dec. 7:5 whales saw rocks under our ship  
12 5 more  
Jan. 3rd: Lost in the fog



cabin where wine was the youngest is a happy Jan. 9th Lost a whale from along-  
 plac'd before him of employ'd. Her temper Mar. 3rd: Man overboard in the side.  
 which by signs he was pleasure in assisting Mar. 11th: Saw Guamanding  
 press'd to partake but so much was his mind carried out with the different  
 and to him wonderful objects, that met his view that he could neither  
 eat nor drink much tho it was evident the taste of our muscatel suited  
 his palate. He gazed at me and your brother Charles with marks of applies  
 astonishment. Beckoning to Charles who went to him, he passed his hand  
 several times over his face and then examined his light glossy hair, it  
 to ascertain if it really was flesh and substance. He next caught  
 a view of his own figure in a glass which seem'd by the satisfaction he  
 express'd to be very pleasing. One is sweet and soft, but is destitute  
 of that grandeur of sound so peculiar to the pedal harp. The instrument  
 and performance is however far superior to anything I could have ex-  
 pected in this remote part of the world and when accompanied with the  
 violin is very good music.

October 10th: Last evening we had a pleasant ride in Mrs. Devonbody's  
 carriage. I had an opportunity of seeing a great deal of the town, as  
 we started about six and were gone two hours, in which time we had a  
 view of all the principal streets, took a circuit around Port Orange and  
 came back by the Market which was throng'd to excess.

In the next street a little before you come to the market is a  
 mosque which being the first building of the kind, I had ever seen, greatly  
 excited my curiosity. We stopped for a moment to give me an opportunity  
 of seeing as much as their religion allows to us Christians. It was  
 built of stone and cover'd with cement which was kept as white as  
 alabaster. In front was a row of large pillars arch'd over. Here the  
 sentries walk constantly to guard their sanctuary from the footstep of any  
 other persuasion. As far as I could see of the interior, its construct-  
 ion was simple and extremely neat. When we turn'd to leave it I gave  
 a sigh for the delusion of so many thousands of my fellow beings who  
 thus live and thus will die, ignorant of the glorious light of truth,



Miss Manche, the youngest is a happy and powerful contract to her oldest sister, always employ'd. Her temper is happy and cheerful in the extreme. She takes pleasure in assisting her aunt in superintending domestic concerns and is amply repaid by the love of every one that knows her. Whoever is so happy as to obtain her for a wife will have a prize rare indeed in this part of the world.

Rosanna tho mentioned last is not to be counted least as she applies herself very assiduously to the harp which she plays uncommonly well and tho it cannot be rank'd among the useful avocations of a female, it is far better than doing nothing. The harps of this country are small in comparison to an English harp and like those us'd on the Coast of Peru have no pedals, but the tone is sweet and soft, but is destitute of that grandeur of sound so peculiar to the pedal harp. The instrument and performance is however far superior to anything I could have expected in this remote part of the world and when accompanied with the violin is very good music.

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In the next street a little before you come to the market is a mosque which being the first building of the kind, I had ever seen, greatly excited my curiosity. We stopped for a moment to give me an opportunity of seeing as much as their religion allows to us Christians. It was built of stone and cover'd with cement which was kept as white as alabaster. In front was a row of large pillars arch'd over. Here the sentries walk constantly to guard their sanctuary from the footstep of any other persuasion. As far as I could see of the interior, its construction was simple and extremely neat. When we turn'd to leave it I gave a sigh for the delusion of so many thousands of my fellow beings who thus live and thus will die, ignorant of the glorious light of truth,



for I am assured by a Dutch gentleman who takes a great interest, indeed is connected with the missionary society, that their progress is extremely small in turning these Mohomedans to anything like Christianity. Much is to be attributed to their native indolence, but it is evident from the little information I can gain on the subject, that more hands are required in this large vineyard. The exertions of the few who take any interest in the conversion of the natives, however laudable and praiseworthy they maybe, are lost or nearly so when we consider that this island contains nearly or perhaps, quite five thousand inhabitants.

About a mile from the town stands the Sultante Palace upon an eminence which commands a full view of the town and harbour of Ternat with the Islands of Tidore, Gelola, Cara, etc. It is by far the handsomest situation for a building of this kind either in the town or environs the town; is Octagon with very lofty ceilings and Venetian of mate, Blinds which reach to the bottom or floor of the balcony which extends the length of four sides. The blinds are green, which being contrasted with the white walls of the building, has a very pleasant look. The Syren was whole, including the buildings for domestic offices is enclosed with a high pallisade of bamboos neatly arranged and dispos'd in front, so as, not to obstruct the view to or from the Palace, on the ship's company,

Last evening I was introduced to a very amiable lady and her family, who call'd here to see me, by name of Vintry. I could soon see that we should be very good friends, notwithstanding the disadvantage we labored under of not fully understanding each other. If my stay was not so short. We spent a very pleasant evening and parted with mutual regret that we had not sooner been made acquainted. Tomorrow we leave Ternat, intending to touch at the Island of Kemar to take on a stock of vegetables, such as onions and potatoes which cannot be procured at Ternat. Fruit is extremely plenty, such as shaddocks and many other kinds to numerous to name, but of all the varieties. There is none to equal the Mangosten Apple which possesses such a variety and richness of flavors that it is impossible for me to give you an idea adequate to its



merits. In size it is similar to an orange. It has a thick rind and is divided into as many apartments as there are scores on the outside which are indented like the scores of a musk melon. Here is the one our Primble used or shaddock which is a fruit the size of a half-grown pumpkin. The flavor is very fine. The Mango tree is loaded with small fruit, but none that is ripe. You can form some idea how much I enjoy this wholesome treat that Nature has so abundantly lavished on these islands. Indeed I live entirely on fruit and vegetables, if green corn can be call'd a vegetable which is now in season and uncommonly fine.

October 12th: Left Ternat with a fine breeze, bound to Kemar which is about two days sail with the prevailing winds at this season.

October 13th: This morning came to anchor at Kemar and had the pleasure to find Capt'n Coffin of the Syren here. He was just arriv'd from Japan where he had been very successful. Mr. Bunker, the chief mate, came on board to see me. He seems in very bad health and has nearly lost the sight of one eye from the effects of a severe wound he receiv'd from the natives at one of the Friendly Islands. (It was while the Syren was lying off and on the Island of Pelelew. The natives were very friendly and came on board in great numbers to trade for knives, fish hooks, etc, when without the least provocation they rose upon the ship's company, kill'd the carpenter and one seaman and wounded several more and for some minutes had possession of the ship, but Capt'n Coffin succeeded at last in driving them overboard and happily saved themselves from a general massacre.)<sup>1</sup>

I can see as yet but little to interest me at Kemar. The town itself is well laid out in squares and seems populous, but there seems a want of good society. What few respectable people there are seem jealous of each other and afraid to show much respect to strangers. All kinds of trade with the English ships touching here for refreshments is strictly interdicted, notwithstanding the inhabitants are suffering for many of the necessaries of life, particularly clothing. There is a dutch missionary here who from what I can learn seems but ill qualified for recommending

1. See ante.



the divine precepts he came to teach, as he is everything but a good of man and a Christian in nothing but the name. Balls are the principals, amusements of Kemar. I am told that the resident is to give one on our account. I do not expect to see anything very brilliant, but it may afford some novelty to witness the different customs and manners. I went last evening for a walk for the first time and was greatly pleased with my excursion. It is on the road leading to Manado, another principal town and seaport of the Celebes. The road on each side was shaded with coconut, Plantains, Gombooty or toddy trees, interspersed and fill'd up with the greatest variety of aromatic shrubs, emitting a fragrance so delightful to the senses after a long confinement on shipboard. We passed several large plantations of coffee which bids fair to yield abundantly. One very large tract we walk'd over which belongs to Government was laid out in rows and under high cultivation. The soil of the island is, I am told, peculiarly adapted to the growth of coffee and produces the best of any in the Moluccas. On our return we pass'd large cemetery or family vault belonging to the Magistrate, Mr. Lucas, who is a kind of king of the natives. His revenue is a poll tax of four bunks which every free native has to pay. As we were walking slow, enjoying the fine view of the sun reflecting his blaze on the neighboring mountains, I noticed a number of natives, men and women, took pass an angle of one of the squares just before us and after stopping a moment in a posture of devotion pass on. These were constantly succeeded by others till the sun's last beam disappear'd. On inquiring, I found it was the Hindo's evening offering to their Idol and on going up to the place, found what every vetary had deposited, about a spoonful of rice on a kind of table cover'd with a mat deposited at the corner for the purpose. The method of building here is peculiar and differs from any I have observed elsewhere, as the houses are all built on large wood pillars, rais'd from the ground from ten to twelve feet. Some few are built of wood, but mostly bambo. This plan of raising them so high from the ground is very conducive to health as well as a means of keeping out



the reptile tribes which are very numerous, so much so that in spite of all their precaution they are frequently found in their sleeping rooms, the very idea of which would expel Morpheus and all his train. Your dear Father and myself have been strongly solicited to live entirely on shore during our stay by Mr. Myers, an aged gentleman, who was formerly resident here, but resign'd his office on account of age and infirmities. His reverent appearance and the fund of information he possesses command respect and esteem, and find pleasure and profit in conversing with him, but cannot consent to stop on shore altogether. Such is my dread of these noxious animals.

October 21st: Last evening was given the Resident's Ball which was truly characteristic of Kemar, dull, clumsy and unsociable, the gentleman sitting in one room, the ladies in another which no gentleman approach'd only to take partners and return them; after the dances concluded, the ladies that were not engaged sitting prim and silent in their own apartments, as the ballroom was the gentleman's room. I, of course, was only a spectator and was glad to escape from this dull scene before twelve while the rest of the party continued dancing 'till sunrise.

October 26th: Left Kemar bound to the coast of New Guinea, there to cruise for whales until the season arrives for going to Japan. We took our anchor about nine in the evening and the next day passed the Islands of Mayo and Tyfore where the Syren, Capt'n Coffin, was wooding, who left two days before. The next island of any note is Gomono which has a pleasant appearance, abounding in wood, but without inhabitants. On the shores are frequently caught fine turtle. Two boats were sent on shore to procure wood and shellfish. They returned in the afternoon with a fine turtle of the loggerhead kind which weigh'd upwards of two hundred weight. We had some of the shellfish cook'd for our supper and found them very fine. Saw the Island Geba. It is moderately elevated and shows marks of cultivation almost to the summit of the hills. It is famous for one of the best natural harbours in the world, so safe and secure is it that it



has acquired the name of Abraham's Bosom. We saw a whale ship going in as we pass'd by the entrance of the harbour. Falling calm, we had sight of the island two or three days in which time we fell in with and spoke the Ann, Capt'n Kemp, of London. As he was a particular friend of ours and in pursuit of the same object, it was concluded to keep company a few days.

November 11th: Saw the Island of Pappua or New Guinea. The next day we was so near that cultivated spots were very perceptible and with a good glass we could plainly perceive large villages or Nigaries with their adjoining plantations, which show'd that the Pappua's possess'd the knowledge of agriculture however ignorant they might be in other respects. Towards noon we saw a fleet of proas leave the harbour and stand over towards Mazao, a distant island. As I was anxious to have a nearer view of them, orders was given to intercept one that was nearest to us, but this we found was no easy matter, for so expert were they and so determined to avoid us that it was not until a boat was sent on one side while the ship was ran close to them on the other. In the meantime our two St. David natives were beckoning and calling in their language to them to come alongside and signs made them that we were friendly, by holding up a white flag. Your dear Father was in the boat and in endeavoring to intercept them came very near having a spear sent thro' him. Eager to make them come alongside he had approach'd so near the proa that the oars of the boat were entangled with their outriggers. At this moment one of the natives caught up a spear and pointing it at your dear Father with his body crouch'd would have darted it had he not instantly seiz'd a musket and presented it to him. On the sight of this formidable weapon he instantly dropped his spear and made his salam. The boat then return'd to the ship and the proa followed as soon as the chief man had had time to make his toilette which consisted of a gay chintz dressing gown with a cotton handkerchief folded narrow and knotted in front, leaving the crown of his head uncovered with the hair standing up eight or ten inches. Add to this gay appearance a savage countenance, much acar'd,



and you will form some idea of our guest, who on coming on board made two or three salams by bringing his face down to the deck, after which ceremony he was introduced to the cabin where wine and biscuits were placed before him of which by signs he was pressed to partake, but so much was his mind carried out with the different and to him wonderful objects that met his view that he could neither eat nor drink, much tho' it was evident the taste of our muscatel pleased his palate. He gazed at me and your little brother Charles with marks of astonishment. Beckoning Charles who went to him, he pass'd his hand several times over his face and then examined his light glossy hair to ascertain if it really was flesh and substance. He next caught a view of his own figure in a glass which seemed by the satisfaction he express'd to be highly pleasing, especially as he saw a couple of watch seals fastened to his ears and a gilt chain round his neck which were presented to him. After he had sufficiently admired himself he went on deck where a different scene had been acting with the native that attempted to spear your Father. He had his hands tied behind him and then secur'd by a rope to the quarter sail. The poor creature stood trembling, expecting every moment to be ran through with one of the lances that was show'd him to let him know it was in the Capt'n's power to retaliate. After punishing him sufficiently with fear, he was liberated and permitted to get into his boat which he did after a number of salams. The canoe, was about fifty feet long with a large frame of wood each side which is call'd outriggers. This serves in the room of ballast. Over the top was rais'd a roof thatched with leaf of the cocoanut tree so as to exclude both sun and rain. When full man'd, it would accomodate from forty to sixty rowers. As we wished to see the contents of the canoe, one of our men got into and pass'd up a variety of articles of native manufacture. There was between twenty and thirty hatchets and the same number of cresses which are a large knife a foot and a half long, including the handle, several curious mats, curious made woven baskets. There were two pieces of carved wood which we were unable to give any name to



bottom of the boat and cover'd over with a sensation that I shall never forget as long as I live. Capt'n Younger understood the language and laid his head on it, shutting his eyes as if asleep, which intimated and inquiry was made for different kinds of vegetables which we found that they us'd them for pillows. Another curiosity was an idol in the form of an old man, sitting in an armchair, the whole figure about a foot high. These articles all but the cutlery we purchased of them, giving in exchange handkerchiefs of which they seemed uncommonly fond. After stopping a couple of hours, they left us highly pleas'd with their trade. In the afternoon spoke the Catherine, Capt'n Younger, and being still in company with the Ann, it was agreed to stand in near the coast as would be safe in hopes of more proas coming off and bringing vegetables which they had been told were wanted and which they should be well paid for. The next day Capt'ns Kemp and Younger, being on board our ship, we discover'd four or five large proas coming toward us. The ships were hove to wait their coming and as they paddled up it was a curious sight on board. The head proa was the chief, seated on the roof of the house and rowed or rather paddled by about sixty men. The length of this royal barge was about eighty feet. Some of the others were double canoes and man'd as they are in time of war. The chief was a venerable looking old man, from the whiteness of his hair and his whole aspect I presume he was upwards of seventy. Care was taken not to let more than one proa come alongside at a time and not more than a dozen to come on board. The old chief declin'd coming up the sides, but seemed eager for trade. Their commodited consisted of cocoa-nuts, Lories, a few pompkins, Paradise Birds in high preservation. After exchanging these articles for tin pots, handkerchiefs, iron hoops, etc, they took up a kind of scuttle and display'd about a dozen children of both sexes, apparently from six to twelve years, which they held up for sale. These wretched objects look'd as if nearly starv'd, and were offer'd for two fathoms of cotton cloth, which was bought in England for six-pence a yard. How I wish'd for the power to have redeem'd these little objects from their wretched condition, but to do this was utterly out of our power, and I saw the children laid down again in the



bottom of the boat and cover'd over with a sensation that I shall never forget as long as I live. Capt'n Younger understood the language and inquiry was made for different kinds of vegetables which we found they had at times, but this was not the right season, as their vegetation ..... Towards night they departed for the shore apparently well pleased with the purchases they had made. It is the custom of all the nations we see yet to have one man to beat a gong while the rowers keep time with their paddles and with a monotonous song which rises and falls every exertion possible it was near nine o'clock before the other boats at intervals; at a distance it sounds pleasant, but on a near approach reach'd the ship, the weather tempestuous, lightning very sharp. Think, it is almost deafening.

In the evening we parted company with the Ann and early next morning whales were seen and immediately boats were in chase from both ships, all eager for the prize, but after a long chase only one was taken, which was by one of our boats, the Catherine's boats getting nothing. In the course of the day, Buccleures Shoal was discover'd. It is mentioned in the directory, but is not correctly laid down. A boat was sent with an officer to examine it. When they returned they reported the Shoal to be about a mile in length and a quarter of a mile wide, they could not approach nearer than seven fathoms water owing to the tremendous swell.

At noon we were about twelve miles from Wageo.

November 18th: We are now steering for the Aria Islands which is consider'd good whale ground and on the islands turtle may be obtained in abundance. Directly after dinner having stood as near to the land as was judg'd prudent, two boats were sent on shore for turtle. At seven in the evening they return'd with three very fine ones, besides several land crabs, which after feeding them with corn a few days, I am told are equal in flavor with a lobster. Nothing particular occurred until the 27th of November, when whales being seen, all the boats were instantly man'd and went in pursuit. It was five o'clock when the boats left the ship, the weather squally and threatening. With an anxious heart I watch'd all their motions with the glass, tho so distant were they that to the naked eye they could only be discover'd in the horizon as they rose with the swell which ran high. Directly one of the boats which prov'd to be your



brothers was rapidly approaching the ship, the whale to which he was fastened running with all the strength expiring nature lent her. As they approach'd near the ship, exhausted by loss of blood, the unweildy object slackened her pace and in a few minutes died close by the ship. By this time it was past sunset and the other boats as far off as the eye could discern. Your brother took his prize alongside and coming on board made all sail for the other boats, yet after making every exertion possible it was near nine o'clock before the other boats reach'd the ship, the weather tempestuous, lightning very sharp. Think, my dear Mary Ann, how anxious I must have been and how happy to see your dear Father arrive once more, owing to the roughness of the sea and anxiety of mind at being out so late. He had not a dry thread in his clothes and "this", thought I, "is the way that these 'Sons of Ocean' earn their money that is so thoughtlessly spent at home." Could some of the ladies whose husbands are occupied in this dangerous business have been here this few hours past, I think it would be a lesson they would not forget. It would teach them prudence and economy more powerfully than all the books ever written on the subject since the invention of printing.

November 29th: Early this morning I was awakened with "There she blows" close to the ship". After a pursuit of two or three hours, two fine whales were brought alongside and the weather wearing a threatening aspect every exertion was made to cut them in which was finish'd about twelve o'clock. All the remainder part of this day and the ensuing night, the weather was uncommonly squally. Such tremendous gusts of wind would strike the ship that would threaten to upset her without an inch of sail being set, when perhaps in ten minutes it would be moderate enough to carry all sail. Just before sunset two large water spouts put down very near the ship. Indeed the weather and elements altogether seem'd a perfect commotion. In the morning Sperm Whales were playing and leaping all round the ship, but the weather was too rough to attempt going after them. The ship under close reef'd topsails and obliged very often to clue them



up. water remarkably clear. Great Providence Isle about seven miles  
December 1st: It was a fine still morning, the sun intensely  
hot when the boats again went in pursuit of Sperm Whales. They had  
not been long away when one of them return'd bringing a man that was  
sun struck, when taking another in his room, continu'd the chase.  
It was a long time before signs of life appear'd tho' every means was  
us'd to restore him that was known to be efficacious in similar cases.  
After a fruitless chase the boats return'd when the man was bled or  
attempted to be in both arms, but only a few drops was taken from him.  
When he recover'd his speech, he complain'd much of his head, but as  
he is so much recover'd, we hope in a few days that he will be about  
again. This evening between eight and nine o'clock, the severest squall  
struck the ship we have ever yet experienced. It seems a miracle that  
her masts did not go over the side or the ship upset and what was still  
more alarming we were near the land, we being close in with Providence  
Islands. In about two hours the wind abated so that sail could be set  
on the ship and the next morning found us 20 miles from these dangerous  
Islands. We have now eight men that are incapacitated by illness from  
doing their duty. This is owing to the frequent squalls of rain, and  
the weather being warm, they are not careful to change their clothes tho'  
repeatedly told to do so and warn'd of the consequence of neglecting it.

On the 6th of December saw the Island of Mysory. We went near  
enough to see that it appear'd well cultivated. It is moderately  
elevated towards the sea, but the middle part appears mountainous.  
Between this and the largest of the Providence Islands three boats went  
after Sperm Whales and having the good fortune to take five brought them  
alongside. It was a majestic sight to see so many of these monsters  
together. While I stood looking over the side your dear Father who  
stood beside me exclaimed, "Here <sup>are</sup> rocks under the ship's bottom"...  
Indeed by wearing the ship we only escap'd, for the rocks were so near  
that you could distinctly see the stones. Judged these was <sup>ent</sup> five fathoms,



the water remarkably clear. Great Providence Isle about seven miles to the north of us.

December 13th: Little Charles was amusing himself with his playthings on deck, the man at the helm seized him by the arm which had been lately broken and threw him several feet from him on the deck, with such force as nearly dislocated his shoulder. I heard him scream and ran to him. His father was not in sight, but immediately on being told the circumstance corrected the man, who on being sent to his duty directly after, ran to the gangway and jumped overboard. A boat was immediately lowered and went in pursuit of him. They soon return'd with the Gentleman, who was sentenced to receive three dozen stripes for his pains. I could not plead much in his favor, for he was a most audacious character, having by his own account escap'd from a neighboring country jail in Female apparel, previous to joining the ship at Gravesend. Such characters as this it is that gives the masters of ships on these long voyages so much trouble that it is hardly safe to go to sea at this present time. From this date to the twenty-third, five whales were taken. Christmas day brings to our recollection the anniversary of your wedding day which we did not forget altho' it prov'd a busy day otherwise, as the boats went off and took 4 whales this day. This proves to be excellent ground for whales, but it requires a good ship, one that sails well, to keep the ground, as there is a strong current

that sets out from the island of Mysory besides such tremendous squalls as require a good strong ship to withstand. Nothing particular occur'd to the twenty fifth of January, except our usual success in taking whales and a constant repetition of bad weather. On this day we discovered land, which prov'd to be a Group call'd the Traitor Islands. They were at least twenty miles off, they appear'd a quantity of barren rocky hillocks moderately elevated. The next day after making these islands whales coming in sight, the boats put off in high glee in the pursuit, particularly as they could distinguish some very large whales among the



several of them show strong symptoms of the scurvy which will compel  
shoal, a circumstance not common on this coast. Their endeavors were  
us to seek some port of refreshment soon.  
crown'd with success, but the weather falling calm, and it being near  
February 9th: This being a fine day and the decks being clear I  
night, I was extremely apprehensive for the boats, who directly after  
have enjoy'd a promenade, which I hope will dispel the debility and weakness  
sunset were not to be seen from the masthead. As they always carry  
I find gaining ground upon me daily. While I was on deck a large tree  
a lantern in the boats, we hop'd as soon as it was dark to discover  
came drifting towards us. It was taken alongside and hoisted on board.  
their lights, but in vain. Every eye was strain'd to catch a glimpse,  
it was cover'd with the sea clam or barnacles and had been a long time in  
no trace of them could be discern'd. The ship keeper, totally unfit  
the water by its appearance. It prov'd very acceptable prize to the  
for his office, knew not what to do. By this time it was near nine  
cock.

o'clock and no sight nor sound of the boats. My terror was such that  
February 15th: Saw Alice Islands, a small group, consisting of one  
it seem'd to me I should lose my senses, but seeing the ship keeper too  
very high and two low islands cover'd with coco and plantain trees;  
much frighten'd to do anything I order'd a large fire to be lit on the  
these little fertile spots which speckle the Molucca Seas and are  
Gabboose and to fire guns as a direction for the boats. This I had  
scatter'd over all the coasts and seas we cruise in serve to relieve the  
heard spoken of as proper to be done in such cases. To my inexpressible  
monotony of the scene. The eye wearied by a constant view of sea and sky  
joy about nine o'clock word was brought me that they could at intervals  
loves to rest on these green spots, yet it is with a tantalizing sen-  
discover the lights heave up with the swell. They continued their  
sation when one thinks of the fine fruit with which they abound that  
torching with fresh courage and in two hours more they came alongside,  
is totally out of our reach; here we took in five whales in doing which  
bringing two whales which they had tow'd six or seven miles and what was  
Mr. M., our second mate, had his leg very badly cut by his awkwardness  
very singular they could see the ships hull while we could see no trace  
altho' he took no whale to his boat.

of the boats. The next time they put off after whales we were within  
5 Fathoms St. Prov. to the north 7 miles.

s-even or eight miles of the Traitors. I could discover nothing on  
December 15th: T. W. struck Charles, jump'd over board  
them but the coconut and palm tree and these very scatteringly dispers'd  
10 whales  
in groups.

January 26th: This day the first we perceiv'd was several whales close  
25 4 more  
to the ship, one was so near as to rub against the hopper. The boats  
January 1st: 3 more  
were directly lower'd but without success. The weather is extremely  
3 2 more  
boisterous and squally, raining every day and sometimes it comes down in  
4 2 more, lost one  
torrents which confines me entirely to the cabin. This is but a trifling  
15 1 more  
inconvenience compared to what those suffer who are continually exposed by  
16 4  
being constantly wet. Most of the ships company are complaining and  
25 5 Saw the Traitor Isle. William cut his hand  
several are seriously ill. Everything that can be done for their comfort  
29 One more  
which humanity and a sense of duty dictates is doing, notwithstanding  
39 3 more



several of them show strong symptoms of the scurvy which will compel us to seek some port of refreshment soon.

February 9th: This being a fine day and the decks being clear I have enjoy'd a promenade, which I hope will dispel the debility and weakness I find gaining ground upon me daily. While I was on deck a large tree came drifting towards us. It was taken alongside and hoisted on board. It was cover'd with the sea clam or Barnacles and had been a long time in the water by its appearance. It prov'd very acceptable prize to the cook.

February 15th: Saw Alice Islands, a small group, consisting of one very high and two low Islands cover'd with coco and plantain trees; these little fertile spots which speckle the Molucca Seas and are scatter'd over all the coasts and seas we cruise in serve to relieve the monotony of the scene. The eye wearied by a constant view of sea and sky loves to rest on these green spots, yet it is with a tantalizing sensation when one thinks of the fine fruit with which they abound that is totally out of our reach; here we took in five whales in doing which Mr. M., our second mate, had his leg very badly cut by his awkwardness altho' he took no whale to his boat.

5 Fathoms Gt. Prov. to the north 7 miles.

December 13th: T. W. struck Charles, jump'd over board

19 whales

23 3

25 4 more

January 1st: 2 more

3 2 more

4 2 more, lost one

15 1 more

16 4

25 5 Saw the Traitor Isle. William cut his hand

29 One more

39 3 more



February 4th & 5th: Tremendous weather

13 1 more

16 Saw Alice Island, got 5

March 1st: Towards Carolines.

March 5th: No land in sight, tho we are passing over the ground where the Carolines Isles are laid down in the charts. This creates anxiety.

March 6th: Squally tremendous sea, heavy squalls. 7 ditto.

8th: Strong winds

9th: Carried away the yard in the ships and split the sail all to pieces. Hard gales and heavy squalls.

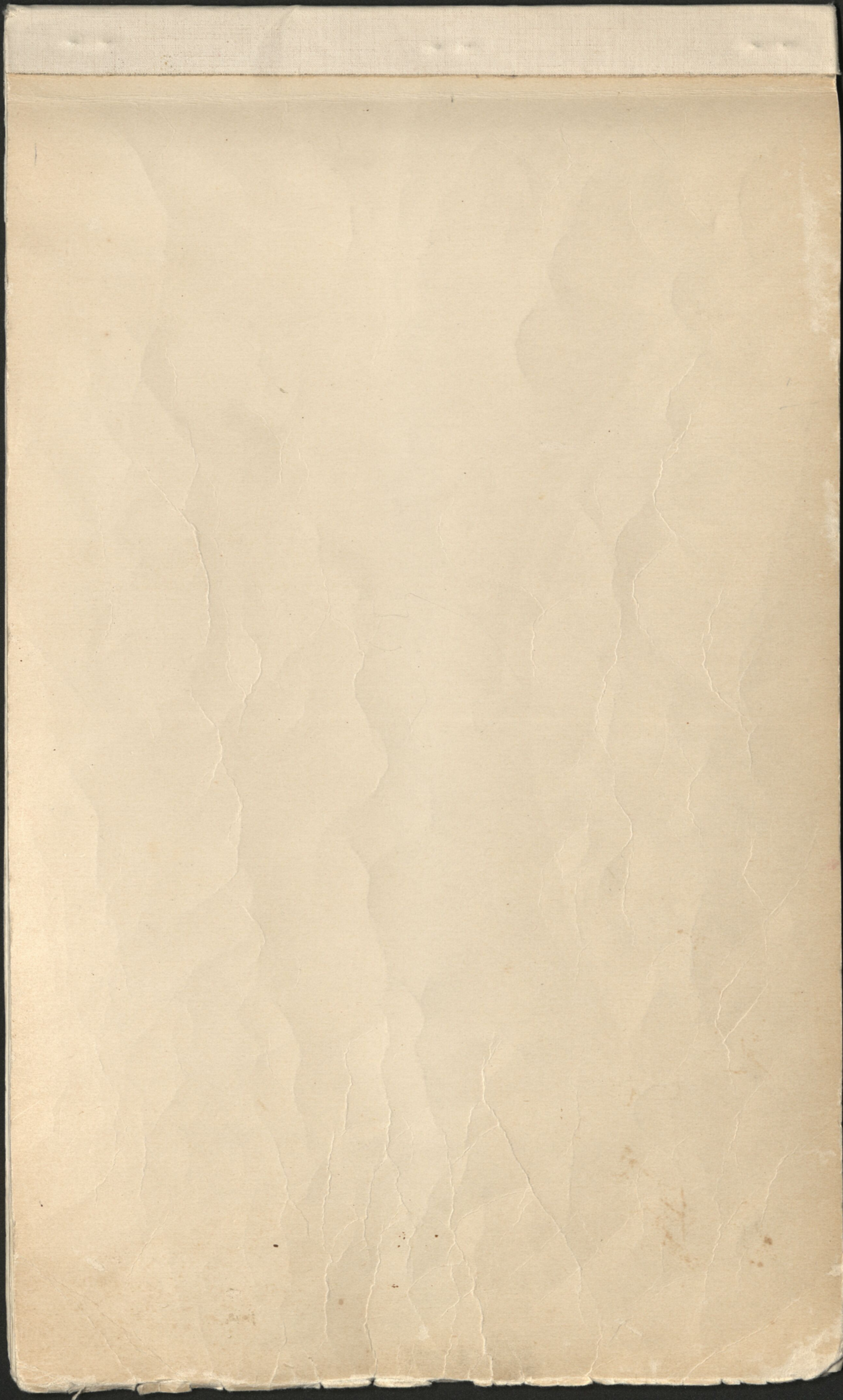
10th: Heavy gales attended with severe lightning & thunder and torrents rain.

11th: Looking out for Guam, towards night saw the Isle, sounded in and came to anchor off Port Aprur.



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Mrs. Snedeker  
1200 Cypress St.  
Walnut Hill  
Cinn.



Part of a Sea Letter.

Written by Mary Hayden Russell to her daughter, Mary Ann Mount.

The ship "EMILY OF LONDON" had evidently sailed thence early in January, 1823, encountered a severe gale and lost her boats and two men. The earliest recorded date seems to be Feby. 11", passing Canaries, after which

Apr. 12"	at Cape Good Hope
June 2"	" St. Paul's Island
July 6	" Copang - Timor Island
Aug. 7	" Passed through Eillola Passage into Pacific
Oct. 1	Returned to Ternate - Spice Islands
" 26	Left Kama - Celebes for Papuan Coast
Jan'y 1	Still fishing near Papua
Feby 15	Standing northwest - Alice Island
Mar. 10	Arrived St. Juan D'Apra - Guam

45 whales recorded to date

This letter was probably sent home from that place - The ship was afterwards on the coasts of Japan - and returned to London before end of the year.

Capt. L.R. Jewett 1908

" wonderfully supported I found there was a reality in religion, but Oh! how much reason I found to lament my slow responding and that I had lived so far short of my valuable priviledges. This world and all that it contains appeared like vanity and in my estimation less than nothing.

My first inquiries were was there no lives lost. Alas! their looks soon convinced me my fears were too true. I had the moment before caught the name of Flardy passing in whispers. I was now convinced he was gone. This was one of the best men we had. I had particularly noticed him as being always on the alert, and the first at everything. The moment before the sea struck us our cabin boy had been trimming our night lamp, and when I knew he had left the cabin to go forward, at the instant my fears were excited for him. A search was made for him, his name called, but he was not to be found. Alas! he was gone with the others to render up their account with hardly time to say, "Lord, be merciful to me a sinner". Our dear William then came to my room with the greatest calmness and presence of mind. "Mother", said he, "try to compose yourself. Let us hope for the best. The hull of the ship seems, as far as I can find, to have not sustained any injury, but should it be otherwise, and this night is to prove our last, we will go trusting in the



mercy of God." He then with a piece of tape, which was the only sounding line which could be found, proceeded with a lantern to examine the ruin here. To his great joy he found all tight. The remainder of this eventful night was spent by me in adoring the sparing mercy and goodness of God, who amidst our severe chastenings still had compassion and spared us, the utterly unworthy, for a little longer. The sea still continued to rage with indescribable violence. The sailors, terror-struck, were with much difficulty made to attend their duty. Towards noon the violence of the storm sensibly abated and a long interval of fine weather succeeded, which brought us up with the Canaries. We passed between the Island of Teneriffe and the Great Canary.

Feb. 11

It was a pleasant morning, the atmosphere was particularly clear when I arose at daylight to view that stupendous mountain, the Peak of Teneriffe. The sight to me was truly sublime, the reflections of the rising sun spreading his beams on the snowy summit while the land on the opposite shore was half hid in obscurity. As the day advanced we saw a ship standing the same course as we were. Owing to our superior sailing we lost sight of her in a few hours.

Feb<sup>y</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> Being nearly in the same latitude of the Cape de Verde, spoke a whaling sloop from Nantucket. We hailed the sloop requesting the master to come on board, as owing to the late storm we were deprived of boats to go to him. The master (C. Bunker) proved to be a man well known to my dear Father, but quite a stranger to us, but he came from "our own native Isle of the Ocean". He has on that account made doubly welcome. He had been months out without obtaining a drop of oil, such is the precariousness of the business he was engaged in as well as ourselves. The usual questions where friends meet on the ocean of "What do you need?" was mutually exchanged and the day passed much to the gratification of all parties, While sailing on the vast trackless ocean, at a superficial view there was nothing to interrupt the dull monotony of the scene, but to one who views a providence in the minutest object there is at sea a continual variety. Nothing seemed more effectually to lull my apprehensions of danger than watching the progress of those delicate little substances on water called by the sailors

sloop  
Dispatch  
arrived  
Bunker  
returned  
July 11/1823



"Men of War". To see those slight fragile beings, tossed from wave to wave, yet always preserving an equilibrium and carried in this way hundreds and perhaps thousands of miles, could I for a moment doubt of that divine protection which was thus wonderfully bestowed on the most (to us) insignificant object? While running down the trade winds it was our greatest pleasure (and one I would not have exchanged for the crowded scene of a ball room or any other fashionable resort) to view the spangled vault of Heaven in all its magnificence. Here is a scene that never loses its interest nor satiates the eye of the beholder, the Magellan. Clouds which to me was a new source of wonder claimed particular attention.

In making necessary preparations for this voyage our friends in London started many objections and particularly thought we should feel the confinement of the ship irksome, that there would be a sameness, a monotony in the scenes, daily recurring, that would weary the mind by their frequency, but ~~time~~ there is a constant variety which insensibly steals away the time and the return of the Sabbath frequently surprises me to know where the week has gone.

March 18<sup>th</sup> The weather being unpleasant had confined me to the cabin all day, but the evening proving fine I had a chair placed on deck to see the sun set. My whole mind was engaged in contemplating the magnificence of the sun, when I heard a scream from my dear little Charles, who had the minute before left my side. Before I had time to enquire the cause his brother brought him to me with his arm broken just above the wrist joint. Such an accident on the land would have been distressing, but what were my feelings when I saw the child writhing in agony and no surgeon on board. He had been to the cabin and as he was returning, the ship giving a sudden lurch he fell off the fourth stair with his weight upon his arm which snapped it off. His dear father with that fortitude and presence of mind that seldom forsakes him took him immediately below and with a man to steady the arm set it and splintered it up. The dear fellow bore the operation with a courage that would have done credit to a man. We are now making great progress towards the



Cape of Good Hope. The weather from day to day is uncommonly fine. Little Charles is able to come on deck with his arm in a sling.

April the 4<sup>th</sup> The pleasant sound of land once more salutes our ears, The sight was doubly welcome as we had for several days past a heavy swell with light winds, ship rolling and slatting from side to side. Next to a gale of wind, have ever found this weather the most unpleasant of any at sea. The finny tribes, however, are not my way of thinking, for they are gamboling and skipping in every direction.

April 12<sup>th</sup>

We have been for several days past rocked with a heavy sea and could make but little progress towards our intended port which was Simon's Bay which we reach this afternoon. At the first view of this little sequestered town, which bears the same name as the bay, it looks like something built for the amusement of children. The lofty hills, or rather mountains, in the background give it such a tiny baby-house look. There is very little to interest or amuse the mind here except the family of Mr. Osmond, which consists of himself, his wife and five children. We had an invitation to dine with his Excellency Commodore Bowls the Sunday after our arrival which like visits of ceremony in general we past very pleasantly at Mr. Osmond's seat which is by far the handsomest in the place. We spent our time very pleasantly. Everything was done for our comfort by this truly hospitable family that hearts such as theirs could suggest. We had a ride out to one of his estates about four miles from the town, situated and I may say enclosed between two immense hills, except by the road that leads to it. The house is spacious and built in the cottage style. The pleasure grounds are handsomely laid out under the superintendence of Mrs. Osmond who takes the greatest delight in cultivating plants and flowers. She showed us several rare species of geraniums and other flowers, the only ones of the kind at the Cape, which she had preserved with great care and attention.

Nothing can surpass the beauty of the Myrtle Hedges which grow from three to six feet high. Rows of the scarlet flower'd geranium which grows spontaneously all over the hills, serve to enhance the beauty of each, when placed as they often are here by the side of each other. The Cape Myrtles as far surpass what we see growing in England as the Magnolia exceeds the common Water Lily. How often while riding



excellent productions of nature have I wished my dear Mary Ann could be with me, since to convey an adequate idea of their beauty I found no language, or at least I possess not the power to do it.

In a hut constructed of reeds and thatch in one of the pleasantest parts of Mr. Osmond's seat lives a venerable old man, a slave, who has passed from one owner to another and still remains a fixture, he refuses his freedom, he says he planted the first tree that ever sprang up there and that his best days and strength have been laid out in ornamenting and adorning the scene, that where he has lived there he will die and be buried. A little spot sufficient to hold his last remains he has marked out and ornamented with the wild flowers that grow so abundantly in the mountains. From the best calculation he is a hundred years old, yet he is still hearty enough to cultivate a little garden. That with the addition of a few luxuries, such as tea and sugar, that his benevolent mistress takes care to provide, forms his principle living. The Malays are very abstemious, living almost entirely on vegetables and rice. It is no doubt owing to their temperance that we often see such aged people among this nation.

Having hired a wagon and six horses to visit Cape Town, on our return we turned off a little from the main road to visit Constantia, so long and so justly famed as producing the richest flavored wine (one or two kinds excepted) in the world. Here we saw everything relating to farming and wine making upon the largest and most improv'd scale of any in this country. Tho there are two more Constantias, yet not to be compared with the one we have just visited. Here was Dutch neatness and regularity in its highest perfection. Several choice samples of wine were produced for our inspection, together with some delicious grapes and other fruit. The hospitality and politeness of the proprietor of this delightful estate we found to be as genuine as his wines, perhaps we relished our entertainment better for having ridden so many miles without stopping, as we were told the houses of entertainment were few and those very indifferent. Sussex Place us'd formerly to be an English Inn, but at the time we were there it was not us'd for this purpose. The present occupants think of again opening a house of this kind, as it is a great inconvenience to ride six or eight and twenty miles over a rocky road without stopping. Sussex was the half way house.



We call'd there on our road to Cape Town, having had some slight acquaintance with the present occupants, Capt. & Mrs. Carmel, and were prevail'd on to stop all night. In the morning we saw the wolves tracks in every direction. The name of wolf generally strikes terror, but here at the Cape and indeed throughout this country they are quite harmless. Dr. Hartly, a physician at Cape Town, assured me that he had, when riding on horseback in the country, seen two or three of them at a time trotting along at his horses heels and that they did not offer to molest him any more than a spaniel.

April 17<sup>th</sup> Visited Fish Hook Bay, a bleak barren situation where the whale fishing is carried on. The lady of the house presented me with some of the finest grapes I ever saw, and what seems strange to us these fine grapes grew from a soil composed of beach sand which was blowing in one's eyes enough to blind us. If it were not for the very kind attention and politeness of Mrs. Osmond and family, we should find our time pass very dull here. The repairs of the ship are going on with all possible expedition and by the last of the month we hope to be in a condition for prosecuting our intended voyage with safety.

May 8<sup>th</sup> Have been on shore for the last time at Simon's Town, have bid goodbye to our dear friends, the Osmonds, with parting compliments to a few others. We are now well supplied with all the good things the Cape produces, dried fruits of all kinds and whatever else your dear Father thinks will be conducive to my comfort. Our dear Charles is quite recovered from the effects of his fall and enjoys better health than he ever did since he was a year old.

May 17<sup>th</sup> We are once more embark'd on our voyage and bound to the Coast of New Holland. The winds continue to blow strong, the sea runs high. This I am assured is the worst part of the voyage. I must therefore endeavor to bear it with patience however unpleasant it is for the present. It is seldom I find a day suitable for going on deck, but when I do it seems quite a luxury after the confinement below for a week. A walk on deck in the fresh air is delightful.

May 18<sup>th</sup> Hard gale of wind, but thro' much favor we do not suffer from it as much as I sometimes have. I shall certainly become a good



sailor at last. Could I but conquer that dread which has apall'd me ever since our misfortune, I shall have nothing else to annoy my happiness. Nothing but time and a firm reliance on Divine Providence will do this.

From the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> May continual gales of wind. This is the inhospitable coast of New Holland, but little is known of its customs and manners or ever will be. I think its boisterous shores threaten defiance to any one who should be hardy enough to explore them. Your dear Father talks of making the Island of St. Paul's, which is famous for the fine fish caught there. Monday June 2 saw the Isle of St. Paul's, stood close in and hove the ship to a small sloop which lay close in by the rocks. Two boats were immediately dispatched to procure fish. Soon after the boats reach'd the shore the sloop slipt her cable and came to the ship. Being hail'd they answer'd they came from Simon's Bay, that they sailed in company with the King George and parted from her a few days before in a gale of wind. This we knew was altogether false, as we came direct from Simon's Bay, had lain there six weeks previous and no such vessel had left it. It was evident from the number of men that they were Pirates. They passed close under the stern. The Capt'n. called to them to keep off or he would fire into them. Not content with this they took another turn and passed so near that we could distinguish their features and countenances which bore the stamp of villains. They appear'd both to give up their intention, but seeing so many boats all sto'd with muskets, they bore away for the Isle of Amsterdam. The two boats returned loaded with some of the finest fish I ever saw. They resemble the American Shad, but fatter.

June 12<sup>th</sup> The long wished for, long expected cry of "There she blows" was heard this morning. It set every one in motion. What a bustle! The first idea it produc'd was the ship is sinking, unacquainted as I was with such scenes. Here was a new scene to try my fortitude, my husband, my son expos'd to these monsters of the deep. What a comfort at that moment to reflect that they were in the hands of God who was as willing as able to protect them. I could truly say, "They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in the mighty waters, they seeth wonderful works of the Lord". June 28<sup>th</sup> Saw Tower Island, so called from its peculiar



shape. As the boats were going for wood, I embraced the offer your dear Father made me of going on shore. We landed safe, there being but little surf. It is destitute of inhabitants except buffaloes & deer. We saw none of them, but recent tracks show'd that they had fled at our approach. The shores was strew'd with red and white coral. We brought away a few specimens with some other curiosities. The long grass prevented my going far from the beach. The soil seems very rich and capable of producing in great abundance were it cultivated. Nature had produced as handsome parks by the regularity and size of the trees as you can imagine, ready stock'd with deer. The weather threatening rain we left this pleasant spot with regret. I believe I was the first European female that ever set foot on it. 29..30 Fine weather. I am enabled to sit on deck a great part of the day. I amuse myself with my needle since the weather grows fine. I find myself insensibly sliding into regular habits. I can hardly credit it myself that it is possible to have my family concerns conducted with so much comfort on ship board. How do I enjoy good weather. It conveys such a gladness to my heart that I can hardly express it. You can judge from my feelings that I have suffer'd from our late severe passage, which can so highly enhance the present change.

July 4<sup>th</sup> This day we made the Island of Timor. I hear much talk of Copang which is the Dutch capital. The Portugese are part owners of this extensive island. It is judg'd to be fifty miles off, but we are rapidly approaching it with a fine wind and a smooth sea. The Governor of Copang and his lady are particular friends of your dear Father. I am already prepossessed in their favor by the description he gives me of them.

July 5<sup>th</sup> Saw Pulla<sup>1</sup> Semo, a small fertile island close to Copang. It has a beautiful appearance as does Pulla Cara not far from it. It is the number and variety of these fertile spots, scatter'd here and there in such numbers that gives a peculiar interest to a voyage of this kind. I am told that the farther we go the more their numbers will increase.

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1. Pulla means island in the Malay dialects.



July 6<sup>th</sup> Safe anchor'd off Copang Harbor. I have been sadly frighten'd. We were in five fathoms water, having crop'd the end of a shoal that lies outside the anchoring grounds. Thank Heaven, my fears were groundless. Your dear Father will go ashore tonight and pay his respects to the Governor and tomorrow I shall accompany.

While he is gone on shore, having a leisure hour I will endeavor to convey to you some idea of the appearance of the town from where we lie. To the right is the Fort with the Dutch flag flying. About three miles to left is the governor's country house, directly opposite the landing place is Government House, a large low building. The front entrance is supported by large white pillars. These are the most prominent features as the rest of the buildings, as far as I can see, are composed of thatch and make a very humble appearance.

Several canoes filled with natives are round the ship, holding up their different articles of barter and calling vociferously for Pesoo in exchange. Their appearance is grotesque and singular in the extreme, to one who has not been us'd to see nature in its roughest form. Their dress is very simple, consisting of a strip of cloth tied round their middle. The countenances of many of them look very open and pleasant, but your Brother is cautious in trading with them, not suffering more than one or two to come on board at a time, as they are notorious for pilfering whatever comes in their way that is made of iron. The natives of Timor are of middling stature, of a dark copper colour, their hair straight and black, their hands and feet are much smaller than a European's, they have no beards and owing to this peculiarity and the smallness of their feet and hands I thought the greater part of them were women. In exchange for knives (Pesoo) we got a supply of fowls, sweet potatoes, banannas, cocoa-nuts, &c., &c. A knife that cost threepence in England would fetch two fowls, and fruit is proportionally cheap.

July 7<sup>th</sup> This morning as I was preparing to go on shore I heard a dreadful scream of distress. It was George Key, a sailor, who while doing something on the foreyard fell on deck. His head struck the anchor and his right leg is broken in two places. What a mercy if it must happen that we are in <sup>o</sup>prt where medical assistance is at hand. Your brother went immediately on shore and returned in a short time with Dr. Barrows,



an English surgeon. He gives hopes that he will recover as his skull is not fractured as we at first feared. After ordering everything for the man's comfort that his unhappy situation would admit, we went on shore, your dear Father, myself and little Charles. Before we reached the landing we could discover a carriage and four in waiting. It was the governor's with a coachman and two footmen, ready to attend us. Crowds of people had assembled on the beach to witness the uncommon spectacle, the sight of an English woman. As it is a place where the whale ships touch for refreshments, a white man was no novelty, but a female created a wonderful commotion. The road for a considerable distance was lined with both sexes, Chinese and natives of all sizes and ages. Our reception from Madam Hasart was friendly and polite. She is apparently about six and thirty, of middle size, and appears to have been very handsome indeed. Her goodness of heart shines out so conspicuously on her countenance that in the opinion of those who know her best she may be still thought handsome. In a half an hour after my introduction to her and the Governor I found myself quite at home. Our dinner was served in the greatest style and did credit to our kind entertainers. There were three women, two men and two boys that waited at table. The house slaves are neatly dressed, the women in check cotton Kines and blue cotton short gowns, the men and boys in long, loose gowns made of India print. The women's hair comb'd up and formed into a Knot fasten'd on the top with a long silver pin or Renner. The men have a small handkerchief of different colours ( but red seems the favorite colour) tied gracefully round their heads. Madam Hasart is a native of Batavia, her father a French physician physician, her mother a Creole of the country. She is consequently nearly white. She was carefully educated by her father, who had good sense and generosity enough to think that women have souls (quite contrary to the prevailing idea in this part of the world) and took pains to instil into her mind such principles and ideas as he thought would lead her in time to know the value of it. I could soon perceive by her conversation, tho carried on in broken English, that she possessed a fund of information on every subject that occurred. They are very solicitous that I should stop with them and let your Father proceed on his voyage without me. This I could sooner agreed to than to stop at the Cape, but I have embark'd in a cause that nothing but sickness shall make me desert,



but I am wandering from my subject which was to give you some account of the amusements of the day.

Tea, coffee and sweetmeats were brought in directly after dinner. We then were invited to walk in the pleasure grounds which are very tastefully laid out. At the bottom of a long gravel walk, border'd with orange and pomegranett trees, is a pond dug out like a basin. The water is led to it by a trunk which admits it at one side and leads it out at the other, which being turned into various channels serves to water the adjacent plantation.

Towards evening visitors began to collect and we soon had the drawing room filled with all the rank and fashion that Copang could boast. Some of the ladies were very handsome and having their faces well Chenam'd (rubbed over with slaked lime) might well pass in the evening for white women. The simple dress of the country was not unbecoming and being made of good European prints, I liked them, better in it than the appearance of one who striving to outdo the others was dressed partly English which not agreeing with the rest of her habiliments, made a very grotesque appearance.

Perhaps you will like to hear something respecting the decorations of the house of a governor of a remote Island as Timor. The rooms are very lofty and about thirty by twenty feet. Four very large windows, framed and sashed, but on account of the heat of the country not glass'd, served to admit air as well as light, with shutters outside to keep out the wet. These were furnished with English print drapery curtains in a plain neat style. At each end of the room stands an ebony sofa covered with print to match the curtains. Large Turkish rugs lie before the sofas and the intervening spaces round the room filled with arm'd chairs with cane seats. The walls were hung with good prints on different subjects, well framed and glassed. A pair of card tables, a pair of large gilt frame looking glasses, three elegant fancy time pieces, one very valuable, finished the furniture of the drawing room. In the dining room were two large upright organs, a high chest of drawers which I found was in the room of a sideboard, two elegant, musical time pieces, a large eight day clock, sofas, pictures, looking glasses, &c. The floors are neatly painted but no carpets. A band of music formed entirely of the governor's own slaves were placed in the gardens. I was greatly delighted with



their performance, but more with their appearance when Madam Hasart took me out to see them, little boys with tamborines, and one little fellow with a drum was so small that he lay down on the grass to play, several playing the violin apparently not more than seven years old. The master musician, an old man, seemed quite delighted with the praise I bestowed on his pupils. It was surprising to see how well they understood time. There was not a discordant sound throughout the band, the composed mostly of children from seven to twelve years old. This island is subject to a fever of a most malignant kind. We thought best therefore to decline their urgent solicitations to spend the night, as there is a chilly air towards the morning that to one unaccustomed to such a climate is very pernicious to health, but it was settled that I should come on shore every morning and return to the ship in the evening.

We returned to the waterside in the carriage, one footman preceding us with a lighted bamboo for a torch. The road leading from the governor's seat to the shore is mostly level and cover'd with gravel. It is a mile and a half long and made entirely at his own expense and for the good of society at large.

July 13<sup>th</sup> We have now been<sup>9</sup> here a week and I have not missed one day going on shore. Our time has passed very pleasantly. Madam Hasart is very domestic. We read, sew and knit alternately. She has learnt to make tatting, double netting and several other stitches already. In the cool of the evening we walk sometimes on the seashore, sometimes we have a ramble in the adjacent woods and trace the little river that supplies the fish and which after following for about a mile terminates in a spring that issues out from between two large trees; the water possesses mineral properties and is counted very wholesome by the inhabitants. These venerable woods form a part of the property of Mr. Tilman, the secretary to the Governor, and the next principal man in Copang. The old family mansion is immensely large and appears to have stood ever since the Dutch first had possession of the land. It has withstood the wear of the elements and from the clumsiness of the architecture bids fair to stand several generations more. Within a few years an aunt of Mr. Tilman's died and left a thousand slaves, an immense sum of money, in gold and silver, and more than one half of Copang in houses and lands which was divided between three brothers. The eldest



brother has very bad health and is seldom seen, the second is Mr. Secretary and the youngest, Mr. Henrique, is general in chief of all the Dutch force in the island. They are now prosecuting a war with great vigour with a native chief whose name is Abbenuman. He is an inveterate enemy to the Dutch and fights sturdily for his independence. I have been introduced to Mrs. J. and Mrs. H. Tilman, who appeared very amiable domestic women. Mrs. J. Tilman plays the harp and piano forte, but she neither understands Dutch nor English, so of course we are not very good company.

Your dear Father finds himself quite at home here as he speaks a little Malay and all the gentlemen understand and speak a little English. Mr. Hazart and Mr. Tilman both have a billiard table in their house, in the cool of the evening they amuse themselves with billiards. There has not been any account from the army for several weeks and they seem anxious to hear the result of an engagement that was daily expected at last account.

July 28<sup>th</sup> Mr. H. Tilman has arrived in town and brings news of the death of Abbenuman, their old foe. Great hopes are now entertained of bringing the natives to submit, as the Dutch have a strong party among the natives that will now declare in their favor.

July 29<sup>th</sup> Our coming to Copang at this time seems very apropos as we find by the preparations that the governor's eldest son is soon to be married to the daughter of the elder Mr. Tilman, a young lady about fifteen. They have a curious custom here of decorating the rooms on such occasions entirely with artificial flowers, draping ceiling and every part of the house indoors is dressed in this way. The dress of the bridesmaids are trim'd with two or three rows of artificial flowers, composed chiefly of white and green. They begin therefore some time previous to the celebration of marriage to make flowers of various kind, which is done by the female slaves under the superintendence of the mistress. We happened fortunately to have a box of elegant flowers which we presented for the occasion, besides different kinds of wine, especially Constantia. That perhaps never found its way to Copang before. When a person of consequence is married nothing can exceed the style and expense of the entertainments which frequently last a fortnight or three weeks. Nothing is attended to at that time, but festivity and rejoicing. The friends of



both parties strive to outvie each other in magnificence and expenses. The simple article of a comb for the bride, presented by her uncle, Mr. Secretary Filman, is valued at a thousand dollars. The young folks here are extremely fond of dancing, especially waltzing. All their entertainments conclude with a ball. The governor has no children by his present lady, but as she is particularly fond of children, she has no less than nine in her home now of various sizes that she is godmother to and to stand in that relation here seems quite a different affair from what it is considered in England. Here whatever may be the rank or condition of the parents the sponsors (if they choose) are entitled to take the child home, adopt it into their own family. They consider themselves bound solemnly <sup>if</sup> to educate and provide for their nominal children and <sup>if</sup> their wealth permits to establish them in life. Three of Madam Hazart's adopted children were motherless and one, a little mulatto girl, was left without father or mother. They all seemed perfectly contented and happy. They attended a day school kept by the Rev. Mr.         ; at the close of the day it was the custom of these little ones to assemble on a grass plat in front of the house and form a ring when one of the elder children would sing a stanza and all the rest join in chorus. Listening to their play one fair morning I observed they often made use of the word "Capple". This attracted my attention, when I was soon convinced by the little I understood of the Malay language that your dear Father was the subject of their song. When I mentioned it to Madam Hazart, who was viewing with benevolent pleasure their little sports, she in the best manner her imperfect English would allow explained to me the subject. It was literally thus: "There lies the ship that bring good Cap<sup>tn</sup>, no get drunk good Cap<sup>tn</sup>, bring cloth for Thebiah and sell for Rupeeas, bad Cap<sup>tn</sup> come here, get drunk, what for get drunk bad Cap<sup>tn</sup>." What a tribute of artless praise was this! Gratifying to me, you, my dear Mary Ann <sup>may be</sup> assured.

July 30<sup>th</sup> For this several days past our amiable Hostess has been superintending the making and packing of all kinds of delicacies the Island affords, piles of plantains, oranges, green and ripe coconuts, yams, sweet potatoes, &c. lie in every direction ready to be sent on board. This island produces a sweet kind of Tamarind that requires much less sugar in preserving than the common kind.

Buffaloes, sheep and fowls are already sent on board in great abun-



dance. They have a method here of preserving milk by boiling it down with a proportion of lump sugar. It is then made into small cakes and exposed in the sun when it hardens and will keep a long time in this state. A small piece in a cup of tea serves both purpose of sugar and cream. Two fine milch goats are sent on board so we shall not want for milk, soon. Happening to notice some children among the domestics that I had not seen before, Madam Hazart informed me that they were sent to the governor from the Island of Solo as payment of a debt, that she was very sorry to have them for they had more people than they could find employment for. She obser'd that her principles and feelings would not allow her to sell human beings, but she had frequently given them to such of her friends as she was assured would use them well. Beckoning to the new comers they came on, when Madam Hazart said if I would accept one of them I might have my choice. They were three fine looking child girls, apparently about nine years old. I accordingly selected one that from her intelligent countenance I thought would answer. When we ask'd her by signs if she would go in the ship with me, appear'd highly delighted. She will go on board tonight, as we have but one more day to stop and that must be chiefly devoted to leavetaking visits, which will be particularly unpleasant after having experienced such unbounded kindness.

July 31<sup>st</sup> Went on shore for the last time. The governor and his lady desired that your Father and myself would think if there was any one thing that was in their power to procure for us that we were not supplied with; we thank'd them with grateful hearts for all their kindness and assured them we had everything we needed in great abundance. When we were about to come away Madam Hazart took from a box a beautiful diamond ring and with a grace peculiar to herself placed it on my finger, saying, "My dear Mrs. Russell, this ring I had made for you. It is set with my own hair. When you look at this think sometimes of your friends at Timor who will never forget you". She then presented me with an elegant gold chain and a Chinese fan of great value and curious workmanship. It was in vain I pleaded my utter inability to make any return. She wished for none, she said, but my acceptance. At a late hour we bade adieu to our affectionate friends with hearts deeply impressed with a sense of gratitude. The next morning, August the 1<sup>st</sup> took our anchor and left the harbour, intending to cruise for a few days just out of sight,



and then send in a boat for two sailors, who had deserted and who supposing us gone would then show themselves. The governor having issued orders to have them apprehended wherever they could be found, according August the 4<sup>th</sup> sent in the boat and brought one away, the other was not to be found.

August 3<sup>d</sup> Saw the Island of Lomblon, went close in with the land so as to see the cultivation, little towns were scattered the whole length of the Island which appear'd under the highest state of improvement. The day was uncommonly fine and in the course of a few hours, we had twenty four proas round the ship, but did not seem inclined to trade or come very near. If all our voyage were to be as pleasant as this, coming to dea might be considered a pleasureable excursion. Timor straights thro' which we are now sailing are from 27 to 50 miles wide and as the winds are light and baffling at this season of the year, we are obliged to tack from shore to shore, so that we have an opportunity of seeing all the towns and harbours as we pass up.

August 4<sup>th</sup> This afternoon sent a boat on shore to trade with the natives for corn and different kinds of fruit; iron hoops and knives makes the best trade here.

August 7<sup>th</sup> Saw Paula Cambang, discovered a ship in shore. August 10<sup>th</sup> saw the Island of Dilly, a Portugese settlement famous for its oranges which are counted the best in the world. It abounds in all kinds of refreshments for ships, but it is almost certain death for Europeans. Some ships that have put in there to refresh have left the greatest part of their crews behind. It was at this Island that Cap<sup>tn</sup> Moses Bunker died of the prevailing fever when he commanded the Minerva of Nantucket, the first ship and I believe the last that ever sail'd from America to the Coast of Timor on a whaling voyage.

August 11<sup>th</sup> Saw the Island of Kisser which abounds in excellent sheep in addition to the various productions of other Islands in these Seas. At noon the ship stood so near the Island I could plainly view the Towns situated on the tops of the hills. I counted four which appear'd populous and most delightfully situated. They are called Nizary's. Your Father went on shore with two boats to see if he could make trade for fruit and vegetables, but with an injunction not to take any Sheep, as our decks were already sufficiently crowded with live stock. In about

First American whaler to Timor - Proas Bunker & Minerva



three hours he returned with such a cargo that our deck when they were all passed out of the Boats resembled Fulton Market more than anything else I could compare it to here. For the first time I saw the China orange in perfection, they are small but have a flavor that I think preferable to the large kind. Fine Apples they brought off in abundance, but not being quite ripe, we lost many of them. The natives of this Island are quite civilized and appear'd to be a harmless quiet people. The trade that suits this Island best is cutlery and powder. The latter article they prize very highly and will give any price you ask in exchange. The weather still remains fine, and we are every day in sight of land abounding in cultivation. It is now the 23 of August, and since leaving Kisser we have pass'd Pulla Dama, Banda, Amboyna (where your dear Father in a former voyage had the misfortune to bury his Mate, Hezekiah Coffin, and where he only escap'd the jaws of death himself), Manippa, Ceram, and this morning we are off Pula Pesang. Two boats are gone on shore for wood. This afternoon the boats return'd. Your dear Father went on shore and seeing the rocks cover'd with beautiful spotted shells he employ'd himself while the people were getting down wood in picking shells, sometimes up to his neck in water, which together with the extreme heat of the sun had such an effect on him that coming on board he was seiz'd with a violent retching. As soon as possible I gave him an emetic which in a few hours by casting off an amazing quantity of Bile quite relieved him. Had I not took this excursion and thus disturb'd the Bile the consequence would have been in all probability a severe fevere incident to this climate.

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Aug. 24 We are now steering for the Geba Passage, saw the Islands of Boo and Joey.

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25 Saw Raib Island, the weather verry calm and the heat verry oppressive.

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27 Off Geba and Syang. 28 Saw Pidgeon Island which is inhabited. It has a verry pleasant appearance and affords cocoa-nuts and wild Pidgeons in abundance. 29 Pass'd close by Wazes Is. saw the Yawl Isl. at twenty five miles distance, to day we have had verry squally weather with severe lightning and distant thunder. th  
30 Saw whales and after a toilsome chase succeeded in taking two. Asia  
Arja Islands, three in number, in sight. These islands are destitute of inhabitants, but abound with exp



cellent turtle, they are connected by reefs which at low water are in many places quite dry. The weather here<sup>d</sup> is extremely variable and squally, but it is consider'd good ground for whaling.

Sept. 3<sup>d</sup> This morning early saw whales, when four boats were lower'd in pursuit. My dear husband was soon fast to one and in drugging another had his boats head completely broke off and his wrist joint badly sprain'd. The whales were so near that I could distinctly view the whole scene with a glass. My terror<sup>on</sup> was extreme, and as he had set down low in the stern to keep the boat balanced I concluded him more hurt than he really was. Under this impression I was with difficulty kept from fainting. To my great relief your dear Father was soon on board when I found, as is often the case, that my fears had outrun the reality.

Sept 4<sup>th</sup> I find the weather on this coast verry different from what we have had this several months past, frequent heavy squalls of wind and rain, sometimes accompanied with thunder and lightning. The squalls come so sudden that for a few minutes it appears as if every mast must inevitably go over the side and in a half an hour it is altogether as fine.

Sept 8<sup>th</sup> This day we had the sight of a large whale. Your dear brother having taken one of the largest kind, well may they be called the monsters of the deep. Indeed the view of such a monstrous animal sporting in its own element must naturally excite the most sublime ideas of the Creator of all things and lead us to wonder and adore in silence.

Sept. 17 For this some days we have been going towards St. Davids Islands, which are three in number and thickly inhabited, and this morning early we were close up with them. The natives are a simple harmless people. Last voyage your Father took two of these simple Islanders at their request and after the Japan season he return'd one, the other died in a decline. We were soon surrounded with canoes and the King's canoe among the rest, who was but little distinguished from his subjects. They had learn'd to speak a little English from Lorei, the native who had been so long on board. He is the king's second son, the eldest and the third son accompanied their Father. The first inquiry of the Cap<sup>tn</sup> was for Lorie, but it seems his two wives, fearful that he would take another voyage, had prevented him by force from coming on board. The ships name and the Cap<sup>tns</sup> was verry familiar with the most of them and as Lorei had report'd his good treatment on board many of them were extremely anxious to go with us, indeed it appear'd as if we might soon have mann'd the ship with



volunteers. These people expressed but little wish for anything but fish hooks and iron which they were extremely eager for. We had the king and his two sons down in the cabin. Your dear Father dressed the king in a white shirt and a new straw hat and presented him with knives, fish hooks, iron hoops, &c. The dress of these natives is a strip of cloth made from the rind of the cocoanut, but they have a frightful way of frizzing their hair which serves to protect them from the sun as well as a hat. As we were two hands short the Cap<sup>tn</sup> agreed to take the king's third son, a fine looking lad, apparently about twenty, and another of the same age by the name of Bookalap Boohoo. The most of their names ended with the hoo which to hear them pronounce in their way sounds truly singular. These people have not a warlike weapon among them, not so much as a bow and arrow. When Lorei was ask'd if they ever fought at St. Davids "Oh, yes, plenty fight," he said, "But how do you fight, Lorei?" "Oh, plenty pull hair". This was all the idea they had of war. Their chief subsistence is coconuts and fish. Bread of any kind they had no idea of, nor is there any vegetable whatever as a substitute. In stormy weather when fishing is not practicable in these small canoes these islanders suffer greatly from hunger. The king claims the head of every fish that is taken as his undisputed property. They do not appear to have any religious ceremonies among them, except dancing in a ring at the full of the Moon. They had not the least idea of future rewards or punishments. The visible objects that appear in the full Moon they told us was an old Man with a Basket of fish on his back. The two natives we intended to take were dress'd immediately in a suit of clothes. Bucalaps friends persuaded him strongly not to go but without effect; on the natives leaving the ship the king was presented with three sheep, two females and one male. Your dear Father presented Lorei with three fowls, 2 hens and a cock when he left the ship the voyage before, besides different kinds of garden seeds, but the rats that are verry numerous destroy'd the seed as soon as they were put in the ground; owing to their ignorance in breeding fowls they had been unsuccessful, so that their stock remain'd the same. The next day after leaving St. Davids we encountered a heavy squall of wind or rather gale, as it lasted six hours. The poor natives were at their wits end expecting every moment the ship would upset and they shout'd "perish!" when they found the ship could endure such winds and not mind it they seem'd altogether as much elated in proportion to their fears.



Sept. 22 Saw the Island of Pupua or New Guinea twenty five miles distant the next day. Saw a ship come up and spoke her. She was the Near-chus, Cap<sup>tn</sup> Baker of Calcutta, from Manilla, bound to Calcutta. Had been recently struck with lightning which took his fore and mizen masts from the skysail to the step. Cap<sup>tn</sup> B. came on board and had the goodness to send us a bag of Cocoa with several other little things which he thought would be useful to us. In return we presented him with a fine cheese. He stopt two or three hours which gave us an opportunity of writing by him to our owner and to you, my dear Mary Ann, which I hope you will in due time receive. In the morning previous to our speaking Cap<sup>tn</sup> Baker, he had spoken a ship from London, a South Seaman, call'd the Cape Packet. He observ'd to us that his lady passengers of whom he had two, a lady and her daughter, had observ'd what a difference there was in the manners of the two cap<sup>tns</sup>; the master of the Cape Packet could not be distinguished from his sailors in any respect, while your dear Father seem'd what he really was. "This is easily account'd for," said your father, "that cap<sup>tn</sup> is a Yankee!" "Indeed," replied he, "if I did not think so at the time; had you been a Yankee, Cap<sup>tn</sup> Russell, you would not have seen me on board here, for I detest and despise those Yankees!" Here was prejudice carried to its utmost extreme. Little did he think at the moment that he was conversing with two of those detestable beings. I think when he finds it out (which he certainly will, as he had a man on board that had known your father many years) it will cause him to discard such useless prejudices for the future.

Sept. 23 We are now cruising off the Cape of Maratta, a place that has for many years been a noted resort of sperm whales, especially at this season of the year. The weather here is extremely variable, shines and showers succeed each other several times in the course of the day. Hitherto we have not had any serious illness on board which may be attributed solely to the unwearied care your dear Father has taken to keep them dry and clean and in attending to the first symptoms of every complaint. I have often had reason since I left England to bless the little knowledge I had of medicine, as it has been contributed to take a great care off the mind of my husband. He examines the cases and reports them to me; this is his part and I am happy to say the medicines I have administer'd have never fail'd of their desir'd effect. Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> We are drawing near to the Island of Ternat, where your dear Father has many acquaintances, as he stopt there twice during last voyage and the first



Mutiny on the Russell, 1821  
March 8

-21-

time he was detain'd better than a month owing to the mutiny that broke out while lying there. As we, who were then in America, heard so many carious and contradictory reports, I shall here insert for your satisfaction the particulars of that disagreeable scene that ended so fatally for one of the misguided objects. It is a fact well known that the Dutch in the Malacca's and Celebes Islands are extremely rigid in their discipline. Ternat being an island where whale ships frequently stopt for refreshments, the sailors going on shore on liberty, had prov'd so riotous and disturb'd the inhabitants so much that Mr. Nice, the governor, had found it necessary to issue orders for all sailors to go on board their respective ships at sunset except such as were waiting for their captains. On the eighth of March, eighteen hundred twenty one, half the ships company had liberty to go on shore with strict injunctions to be on board at sunset. They were told it was the governor's order and that they were on no pretence to disobey it. They accordingly all return'd except two who stopt on shore all night and came on board next morning. Previous to this they had enter'd into a combination that none of people on board should be struck let their crime be what it would, that the Cap<sup>tn</sup> should not have the liberty of correcting apprentices, if he attempted it they were all to come in a Body and rescue him. On the strength of this combination when your dear Father the next day inquired why they were not on board at the appointed time, Neagle, one of the sailors, was very impertinent, using such language as it was impossible any master of a vessel could take without losing all his authority. He accordingly struck the man with the flat of his hand, when in a moment he found himself surrounded by the people and one of them struck your dear Father on the head with a piece of plank. He was nearly stun'd by the blow for he has no recollection how he clear'd himself, but his powerful arm sent one to the right and another to the left and getting into the boat he went on shore and stated his situation to the governor, desiring him to take these mutinous men out of his ship. Cap<sup>tn</sup> Mattinson was there at the time, and as he was an old master your dear Father took his advice in all he did down from the moment application was made to the Dutch governor. Whatever was done became an act of theirs and your dear Father had nothing further to do with it. Mr. Nice said he would send an officer, Lieutenant Barns, with five or six soldiers and take the men. Your dear Father ob-



serv'd to Mr. Nice that from the spirit they were in he expected they would resist. "Then," he replied, "I shall be under the necessity of shooting them." He accordingly give instructions to the officer to take all necessary means to prevent the effusion of blood, but if they stood out to fire on them. Following his instructions when he came on board he desired your Father to call the disaffected on the quarter deck, that he might enquire into the motions of their conduct. This he did and they refus'd to come. Lieutenant Barns then call'd them. They refus'd, swearing they would not come for any Dutch Rascal. After calling them three times he proceeded to fire over their heads. In the mean time the men had arm'd themselves with hand spikes, iron poles and whatever came in their way. When the soldiers fir'd over their heads, "Come on, boys," said they, "we are not to be frighten'd with blank cartridges. Now is our time and we're rushing upon the soldiers." When the word was given to fire and in an instant three lay extended upon the deck. The rest seeing their comrades fall immediately surrender'd, they wer all taken on shore, the wounded to the hospital, and the others to the fort for further examination. The names of those that were wounded were Beadle, Ellis, & Smith Smith died in a few days of his wounds. Beadle and Ellis recover'd and were sent to Java together with three others, as these were the ringleaders of the mutiny. The rest that were concerned were verry glad to return to their duty and behav'd themselves with the greatest propriety the rest of the voyage.

Oct. 2 This day we had two very heavy squalls after having calms and light air, which made them for the short time they lasted the more severe. October 3 Saw Ternat, A high mountain, is all we can yet see of it, being thirty miles distant. This mountain has a valcano that frequently emits smoke. It has in times past sent forth torrents of lava and other volcanic matter. There is a crater at the top which admits of ones going down six hundred feet below the surface of the peak. Mr. Devonbody, Mr. Burney's agent, had the curiosity to go down. Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> We have just cast anchor in Ternat Harbour and are making preparations for going on shore. Mr. Devonbody's house is but a short walk from the beach and like most of the houses in this country looks but indifferent outside, but when you enter the scene changes. You find every convenience and most of the luxuries of life. This observation only applies to a few, as the principle part of the habitations are as miserable in the internal as



the external appearance. The free people of Ternat form but a small portion of the inhabitants which amount to nearly five thousand, as a gentleman of any property must have fifty or sixty slaves. Some few that are the richest own two or three hundred. These live in small huts built of bamboo, scatter'd here and there on the estate of their masters. They are extremely indolent and would of their own accord do nothing, but eat and sleep. The common dress of the slave is the same as Timor, Copang, but when the master and mistress pay a visit, then the slave is decorated with fancy ornament, such as hair pins, necklaces, rings, eardrops, &c. which are sometimes made of topaz or paste, but oftener real diamonds, large or small, according to the wealth and rank of their master. Dancing is an amusement very much practiced among the young people, to prepare their dress and ornaments for a ball is considered the principal business of their lives. Both sexes marry very young, the ladies in particular. They think fourteen a very proper age and I am told that many marry at twelve and thirteen. This seems strange to one acquainted with European manners, who have been in the habit of considering marriage as attended with great and important duties to which a child of that age, however amiable, would be totally unfit.

Mr. Devonbody, who was for many years Mr. Burney's agent, died in a few months after your dear Father left here last voyage. Today I was introduced to his widow and never was I more disappointed. Judging of the wealth she was in possession of I expected certainly to see a lady respectably clad, not, of course in the extreme of European fashion, but in some degree suitable to her rank and situation. Instead of that she was dress'd in her kine and Kebiah, made of materials but verry little if any better than her house slaves. To have judged from her looks I should have have thought her about sixty five, but I am told her age does not exceed forty. Her whole aspect indicated a person of extreme parsimony and anxious for nothing but to accumulate money. This I soon found was the leading trait in her character, but sickness and care had made sad havoc with her constitution, and it was evident that however great her possessions she had not a great while to enjoy it. Poor woman! I sincerely pity her misguided mind which has taken this unhappy bias, abounding in riches and tho' utterly unable to enjoy what a bountiful Providence has bestowed upon, still grasping with a miser's hand after money, ~~she~~ she has no child living but her husband had one by a former wife



who was at an early age sent to London, to receive his education. He has now finish'd his English studies and gone to Holland to study Dutch. He is now daily expected at Ternatt to take possession of the property left him by his Father. Mrs. Devonbody seems verry anxious for his arrival. We began to be a little more sociable than I at first imagined we could be. Mrs. Devonbody begins to recollect a little English and I am learning daily a little Malay, but our best assistant, Mrs. Devonbody's nephew, son to the governor of Gonontally, who speaks verry good English. He is residing at present with his aunt besides, two brothers and three sisters, more of the same family, as there is more agreeable society at Ternat than any of the Moluccas, Amboyna excepted. When we find ourselves unable to comprehend each others meaning Sandy is called, the name of the young man I alluded, who soon interprets for us. I mention'd just now that we had three of Mr. Sandy's sisters here; the eldest, Miss Maria, is about seventeen, slim and tall in her person with a fair Chinese countenance, but the most indolent being that nature ever produced. She is actually too lazy to talk. "From morn to noon, from noon to dewy eve" she stands about the house gazing at vacuity, a listless nobody, regarding none, and I believe but little regarded herself.



Note.-These two pages seem interpolated. - 6 pages at Kema and 10 pages.

*Syren attacks*  
(It seems while the Syren was lying off and on at the island the natives were very firendly and came on board in great numbers to trade for knives, fish hooks, &c., when without the least provocation they rose upon the ships company, kill'd the carpenter and one seaman and wounded several more and for some minutes had charge of the ship, but Cap<sup>tn</sup> Coffin succeeded at last in driving them over board when they took to their canoes and made their escape.)

Your dear Father was on the boat and in endeavoring to intercept came verry near having a spear sent thro' him. Eager to make them come alongside he had got so near the proa the oars of the boat were entahgled with their outriggers. At this moment one of the natives siez'd a spear and pointing it at your dear Father with his body couch'd would have darted it, had he not instantly siez'd a musket and presented it. On the sight of this formidable weapon he drop'd his spear and salan'd the boat, then return'd to the ship and after the chief man had had time to make his toilet, which consisted of a gay chintz dressing gown with a cotton handkerchief folded narrow and brought round to knot in front, leaving the crown of his head uncover'd with the hair standing up eight or ten inches in length. Add to this gay appearance a savage countenance much scar'd and

you will form  
some idea of our  
guest who on  
comeing on board  
made two or three  
salams by bringing  
his face down  
to the deck after  
which ceremony he was  
introduced to the  
cabin where wine was  
plac'd before him of  
which by signs he was  
press'd to partake but  
so much was his mind carried

Left Kema 26 Octo.

Nov. 2 squally

N.6 Saw a ship going into Geba

9 Spoke the Ann

11 Saw the Isle of New Ginea

12 Saw proas

15 Took a whale

18 Saw the Aria Isle

Dec. 7 5 whales saw rocks under our ship

12 2 more

Jany 3 Lost in the fog

Jay. 9 Lost a whale from alongside

March 3 Man over board

March 11 Saw Guam



out with the different and to him wonderful objects that met his view that he could neither eat nor drink much tho it was evident the taste of our muscatel suited his palate. He gazed at me and your brother Charles with marks of astonishment. Beckoning to Charles who went to him he passed his hand several times over his face and then examined his light glossy hair to ascertain if it really was flesh and substance. He next caught a view of his own figure in a glass which seem'd by the satisfaction he express'd to be verry pleasing.



Miss Manche, the youngest is a happy and powerful contrast to her oldest sister, always employ'd. Her temper is happy and cheerful in the extreme. She takes pleasure in assisting her aunt in superintending domestic concerns and is amply repaid by the love of every one that knows her. Whoever is so happy as to obtain her for a wife will have a prize rare indeed in this part of the world.

Rosanna the mentioned last is not to be counted least as she applies herself verry assitiously to the harp which she plays uncommonly well and tho it cannot be rank'd among the useful avocations of a female, it is far better than doing nothing. The harps of this country are small in comparison to an English harp and like those us'd on the Coast of Peru have no pedals, but the tone is sweet and soft, but is destitute of that grandeur of sound so peculiar to the pedal harp. The instrument and performance is however far superior to anything I could have expected in this remote part of the world and when accompanied with the violin is verry good musick.

Oct. 10 Last evening we had a pleasant ride in Mrs. Devonbody's carriage. I had an opportunity of seeing a great deal of the town, as we started about six and were gone two hours in which time we had a view of all the principal streets, took a circuit round Port Orange and came back by the Market which was throng'd to excess.

In the next street a little before you come to the market is a mosque which being the first building of the kind I had ever seen greatly excited my curiosity. We stopt for a moment to give me an opportunity of seeing as much as their religion allows to us Christians. It was built of stone and cover'd with cement which was kept as white as alabaster. In front was a row of large pillars arch'd over. Here the sentries walk constantly to guard their sanctuary from the footstep of any other persuasion. As far as I could see of the interior its construction was simple and extremely neat. When we turn'd to leave it I gave a sigh for the delusion of so many thousands of my fellow beings who thus live and thus will die, ignorant of the glorious light of truth, for I am assured by a Dutch gentleman who takes a great interest, indeed is connected with, the missionary society, that their progress is extremely small in turning these Mohomedans to anything like Christianity. Much is to be attributed to their native indolence, but it is evident from the little information



I can gain on the subject that more hands are required in this large vineyard. The exertions of the few who take any interest in the conversion of the natives, however laudable and praiseworthy they maybe, are lost or nearly so when we consider that this island contains nearly or perhaps quite five thousand inhabitants.

About a mile from the town stands the Sultans Palace upon an eminence which commands a full view of the town and harbour of Ternate with the Islands of Tidore, Gelola, Cara, &c. It is by far the handsomest situation for a building of this kind either in the town or environs the town, is Octagon with verry lofty ceilings and Venitian Blinds which reach to the bottom or floor of the balcony which extends the length of four sides. The blinds are green, which being contrasted with the white walls of the building, has a verry pleasant look. The whole, including the buildings for domestic offices is enclosed with a high pallisade of bamboos neatly arranged and dispos'd in front, so as not to obstruct the view to or from the Palace.

Last evening I was introduced to a verry amiable lady and her family, who call'd here to see me, by name of Vintry. I could soon see that we should be verry good friends, notwithstanding the disadvantage we laboured under of not fully understanding each other, if my stay was not so short. We spent a verry pleasant evening and parted with mutual regret that we had not sooner been made acquainted. Tomorrow we leave Ternat, intending to touch at the Island of Kenar to take on a stock of vegetables, such as onions and potatoes which cannot be procured at Ternat. Fruit is extremely plenty, such as shaddocks and many other kinds too numerous to name, <sup>but of all the varieties</sup> <sup>Cen</sup> there is none to equal the Mangosten Apple which possesses such a variety and richness of flavours that it is impossible for me to give you an idea adequate to its merits. In size it is similar to an orange. It has a thick rind and is divided into as many apartments as there are scores on the outside which are indented like the scores of a musk melon. Here is the Primblenose or shaddock which is a fruit the size of a halfgrown Pompion. The flavor is verry fine. The Mango tree is loaded with small fruit, but none that is ripe. You can form some idea how much I enjoy this wholesome treat that Nature has so abundantly lavish'd on these islands. Indeed I live entirely on fruit and vegetables, if green corn can be call'd a vegetable which is now in season and uncommonly fine.



October 12<sup>th</sup> Left Ternat with a fine breeze, bound to Kemar which is about two days sail with the prevailing winds at this season.

Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> This morning came to anchor at Kemar and had the pleasure to find Cap<sup>tn</sup> Coffin of the Syren here. He was just arriv'd from Japan where he had been very successful. Mr. Bunker, the chief mate, came on board to see me. He seems in very bad health and has nearly lost the sight of one eye from the effects of a severe wound he receiv'd from the natives at one of the Friendly Islands. (It was while the Syren was lying off and on the Island of Pelelew. The natives were verry friendly and came on board in great numbers to trade for knives, fish hooks, &c., when without the least provocation they rose upon the ship's company, kill'd the carpenter and one seaman and wounded several more and for some minutes had possession of the ship, but Cap<sup>tn</sup> Coffin succeeded at last in driving them overboard and happily saved themselves from a general massacre.)<sup>1</sup>

I can see as yet but little to interest me at Kemar. The town itself is well laid out in squares and seems populous, but there seems a want of good society. What few respectable people there are seem jealous of each other and afraid to show much respect to strangers. All kinds of trade with the English ships touching here for refreshments is strictly interdicted, notwithstanding the inhabitants are suffering for many of the necessaries of life, particularly clothing. There is a Dutch missionary here who from what I can learn seems but ill qualified for recommending the divine precepts he came to teach, as he is everything but a good man and a Christian in nothing but the name. Balls are the principal amusements of Kemar. I am told that the Resident is to give one on our account. I do not expect to see anything verry brilliant, but it may afford some novelty to witness the different customs and manners. I went last evening for a walk for the first time and was greatly pleased with my excursion. It is on the road leading to Manardo, another principal town and seaport of the Celebes. The road on each side was shaded with coconut, Plantains, Gomooty or toddy trees, interspers'd and fill'd up with the greatest variety of aromatic shrubs, emitting a fragrance so delightful to the senses after a long confinement on shipboard. We passed several large plantations of coffee which bids fair to yeild abundantly. One verry large tract we walk'd over which belongs to Government was laid out in rows and under high cultivation. The soil of the island is, I am

-See Ante.



told, peculiarly adapted to the growth of coffee and produces the best of any in the Moluccas. On our return we pass'd a large cemetery or family vault belonging to the Magistrate, Mr. Lucas, who is a kind of king of the natives. His revenue is a poll tax of four bunks which every free native has to pay. As we were walking slow, enjoying the fine view of the sun reflecting his blaze on the neighboring mountains, I noticed a number of natives, men and women, pass an angle of one of the squares just before us and after stopping a moment in a posture of devotion pass on. These were constantly succeeded by others till the sun's last beam disappear'd. On enquiring I found it was the Hinde's evening offering to their Idol and on going up to the place, found what every votary had deposited, about a spoonful of rice on a kind of table cover'd with a mat deposited at the corner for the purpose. The method of building here is peculiar and differs from any I have observed elsewhere, as the houses are all built on large wood pillars, rais'd from the ground from ten to twelve feet. Some few are built of wood, but mostly bambo. This plan of raising them so high from the ground is verry conducive to health as well as a means of keeping out the reptile tribes which are verry numerous, so much so that in spite of all their precaution they are frequently found in their sleeping rooms, the verry idea of which would expel Morpheus and all his train. Your dear Father and myself have been strongly solicited to live entirely on shore during our stay by Mr. Myers, an aged gentleman, who was formerly Resident here, but resign'd his office on account of age and infirmities. His reverent appearance and the fund of information he possesses command respect and esteem, and find pleasure and profit in conversing with him, but cannot consent to stop on shore altogether. Such is my dread of these noxious animals.

Oct. <sup>24</sup>~~21~~ Last evening was given the Resident's Ball which was truly characteristic of Kemar, dull, clumsy and unsociable, the gentlemen sitting in one room, the ladies in another which no gentleman approach'd only to take partners and return them; after the dances concluded, the ladies that were not engaged sitting prim and silent in their own apartments, as the ballroom was the gentleman's room. I, of course, was only a spectator and was glad to escape from this dull scene before twelve while the rest of the party continued dancing 'till sunrise.

Oct. <sup>25</sup>~~26~~ Left Kemar bound to the coast of New Guinea, there to cruise for whales until the season arrives for going to Japan. We took



our anchor about nine in the evening and the next day passed the Islands of Mayo and Tyfore where the Syren, Cap<sup>tn</sup> Coffin, was wooding, who left two days before. The next island of any note is Gomono which has a pleasant appearance, abounding in wood, but without inhabitants. On the shores are frequently caught fine turtle. Two boats were sent on shore to procure wood and shellfish. They returned in the afternoon with a fine turtle of the loggerhead kind which weigh'd upwards of two hundred weight. We had some of the shellfish cook'd for our supper and found them verry fine. Saw the Island Geba. It is moderately elevated and shows marks of cultivation almost to the summit of the hills. It is famous for one of the best natural harbours in the world, so safe and secure is it that it has acquired the name of Abraham's Bosom. We saw a whale ship going in as we pass'd by the entrance of the harbour. Falling calm, we had sight of the island two or three days in which time we fell in with and spoke the Am, Cap<sup>tn</sup> Kemp, of London. As he was a particular friend of ours and in pursuit of the same object, it was concluded to keep company a few days.

Nov. 11 Saw the Island of Pappua or New Guinea. The next day we was so near that cultivated spots were verry perceptible and with a good glass we could plainly perceive large villages or Nigaries with their adjoining plantations, which show'd that the Pappua's possess'd the knowledge of agriculture however ignorant they might be in other respects. Towards noon we saw a fleet of proas leave the harbour and stand over towards Mazao, a distant island. As I was anxious to have a nearer view of them, orders was given to intercept one that was nearest to us, but this we found was no easy matter, for so expert were they and so determined to avoid us that it was not untill a boat was sent on one side while the ship was ran close to them on the other. In the meantime our two St. David natives were beckoning and calling in their language to them to come alongside and signs made them that we were friendly, by holding up a white flag. Your dear Father was in the boat and in endeavoring to intercept them came verry near having a spear sent thro' him. Eager to make them come alongside he had approach'd so near the proa that the oars of the boat were entangled with their outriggers. At this moment one of the natives caught up a spear and pointing it at your dear Father with his body crouch'd would have darted it had he not instantly seiz'd a musket and presented it to him. On the sight of this formidable weapon



he instantly dropt his spear and made his salam. The boat then return'd to the ship and the proa followed as soon as the chief man had had time to make his toilette which consisted of a gay chintz dressing gown with a cotton handkerchief folded narrow and knotted in front, leaving the crown of his head uncovered with the hair standing up eight or ten inches. Add to this gay appearance a savage countenance, much scar'd, and you will form some idea of our guest, who on coming on board made two or three salams by bringing his face down to the deck, after which ceremony he was introduced to the cabin where wine and biscuits were placed before him of which by signs he was pressed to partake, but so much was his mind carried out with the different and to him wonderful objects that met his view that he could neither eat nor drink, much tho' it was evident the taste of our muscatel pleased his palate. He gazed at me and your little brother Charles with marks of astonishment. Beckoning Charles who went to him, he pass'd his hand several times over his face and then examined his light glossy hair to ascertain if it really was flesh and substance. He next caught a view of his own figure in a glass which seemed by the satisfaction he express'd to be highly pleasing, especially as he saw a couple of watch seals fastened to his ears and a gilt chain round his neck which were presented to him. After he had sufficiently admired himself he went on deck where a different scent had been acting with the native that attempted to spear your Father. He had his hands tied behind him and then secur'd by a rope to the quarter sail. The poor creature stood trembling, expecting every moment to be ran through with one of the lances that was show'd him to let him know it was in the Capt'n's power to retaliate. After punishing him sufficiently with <sup>tear</sup> he was liberated and permitted to get into his boat which he did after a number of salams. The canoe was about fifty feet long with a large frame of wood each side which is call'd outriggers. This serves in the room of ballast. Over the top was rais'd a roof ~~of~~ thatched with leaf of the cocoanut tree so as to exclude both sun and rain. When full man'd it would accomodate from forty to sixty rowers. As we wished to see the contents of the canoe, one of our men got into and pass'd up a variety of articles of native manufacture. There was between twenty and thirty hatchets and the same number of cresses which are a large knife a foot and a half long, including the handle, several curious mats, curious made woven baskets. There were two pieces of carved wood which we were unable to give any name to or to assign any use for them, when the capt'n took it into his hand and laid



his head on it, shutting his eyes as if asleep, which intimated that they us'd them for pillows. Another curiosity was an idol in the form of an old man, sitting in an armchair, the whole figure about a foot high. These articles all but the cutlery we purchased of them, giving in exchange handkerchiefs of which they seemed uncommonly fond. After stopping a couple of hours, they left us highly pleas'd with their trade. In the afternoon spoke the Catherine, Cap<sup>tn</sup> Younger, and being still in company with the Ann, it was agreed to stand in near the coast as would be safe in hopes of more proas coming off and bringing vegetables which they had been told were wanted and which they should be well paid for. The next day Cap<sup>tns</sup> Kemp and Younger, being on board our ship, we discover'd four or five large proas coming towards us. The ships were hove to to wait their coming and as they paddled up it was a curious sight on board. The head proa was the chief, seated on the roof of the house and rowed or rather paddled by about sixty men. The length of this royal barge was about eighty feet. Some of the others were double canoes and man'd as they are in time of war. The chief was a venerable looking old man, from the whiteness of his hair and his whole aspect I presume he was upwards of seventy. Care was taken not to let more than one proa come alongside at a time and not more than a dozen to come on board. The old chief declin'd coming up the sides, but seemed eager for trade. Their commodities consisted of coconuts, Lories, a few pompians, Paradise Birds in high preservation. After exchanging these articles for tin pots, handkerchiefs, iron hoops, &c., they took up a kind of scuttle and display'd about a dozen children of both sexes, apparently from six to twelve years, which they held up for sale. These wretched objects look'd as if nearly starv'd, and were offer'd for two fathoms of cotton cloth, which was bought in England for sixpence a yard. How I wish'd for the power to have redeem'd these little objects from their wretched condition, but to do this was utterly out of our power, and I saw the children laid down again in the bottom of the boat and cover'd over with a sensation that I shall never forget as long as I live. Cap<sup>tn</sup> Younger understood the language and inquiry was made for different kinds of vegetables which we found they had at times, but this was not the right season, as their vegetation .....

Towards night they departed for the shore apparently well pleased with the purchases they had made. It is the custom of all the nations we seen yet to have one man to beat a gong while the rowers keep



time with their paddles and with a monotonous song which rises and falls at intervals; at a distance it sounds pleasant, but on a near approach it is almost deafening.

In the evening we parted company with the Ann and early next morning whales were seen and immediately boats were in chase from both ships, all eager for the prize, but after a long chase only one was taken, which was by one of our boats, the Catherine's boats getting nothing. In the course of the day, Buccleures Shoal was discover'd. It is mentioned in the directory, but is not correctly laid down. A boat was sent with an officer to examine it. They they returned they reported the Shoal to be about a mile in length and a quarter of a mile wide, they could not approach nearer than seven fathoms water owing to the tremendous swell. At noon we were about twelve miles from Wageo.

Nov<sup>r</sup> 18 We are now steering for the Agia Islands which is consider'd good whale ground and on the islands turtle may be obtained in abundance. Directly after dinner having stood as near to the land as was judg'd prudent, two boats were sent on shore for turtle. At seven in the evening they return'd with three verry fine ones, Besides several land crabs, which after feeding them with corn a few days I am told are equal in flavor with a lobster. Nothing particular occurred <sup>until Nov<sup>r</sup></sup> the 27<sup>th</sup> when whales being seen, all the boats were instantly man'd and went in pursuit. It was five oclock when the boats left the ship the the weather squally and threatning. With an anxious heart I watch'd all their motions with the glass, the so distant were they that to the naked eye they could only be discover'd in the horizon as they rose with the swell which ran high. Directly one of the boats which prov'd to be your brother's was rapidly approaching the ship, the whale to which he was fastened running with all the strength expiring nature lent her. As they approach'd near the ship, exhausted by loss of blood, the unweildy object slackened her pace and in a few minutes died close by the ship. By this time it was past sunset and the other boats as far <sup>off</sup> as the eye could discern. Your brother took his prize alongside and coming on board made all sail for the other boats, yet after making every exertion possible it was near nine oclock before the other boats reach'd the ship, the weather tempestuous, lightning verry sharp. Think, my dear Mary Ann, how anxious I must have been and how happy to see your dear Father arrive once more, owing to the roughness of the sea and anxiety of mind at being out so late. He had not a dry thread



in his clothes and "this", thought I, "is the way that these 'Sons of Ocean' earn their money that is so thoughtlessly spent at home." Could some of the ladies whose husbands are occupied in this dangerous business have been here this few hours past, I think it would be a lesson they would not forget. It would teach them prudence and economy more powerfully than all the books ever written on the subject since the invention of printing.

<sup>th</sup>  
29 Early this morning I was awakened with "There she blows" close to the ship". After a pursuit of two or three hours two fine whales were brought alongside and the weather wearing a threatening aspect every exertion was made to cut them in which was finish'd about twelve oclock. All the remainder part of this day and the ensuing night the weather was uncommonly squally. Such tremendous gusts of wind would strike the ship that would threaten to upset her without an inch of sail being set, when perhaps in ten minutes it would be moderate enough to carry all sail. Just before sunset two large water spouts put down verry near the ship. Indeed the weather and elements altogether seem'd a perfect commotion. In the morning Sperm Whales were playing and leaping all round the ship, but the weather was too rough to attempt going after them, The ship under close reef'd topsails and obliged verry often to clue them up.

<sup>st</sup>  
Decr. 1 It was a fine still morning, the sun intensely hot when the boats again went in pursuit of Sperm Whales. They had not been long away when one of them return'd bringing a man that was sun struck, when taking another in his room, continu'd the chase. It was a long time before signs of life appear'd tho' every means was us'd to restore him that was known to be efficacious in similar cases. After a fruitless chase the boats return'd when the man was bled or attempted to be in both arms, but only a few drops was taken from him. When he recover'd his speech, he complain'd much of his head, but as he is so much recover'd, we hope in a few days that he will be about again. This evening between eight and nine oclock the severest squall struck the ship we have ever yet experienc'd. It seems a miracle that her masts did not go over the side or the ship upset and what was still more alarming we were near the land, we being close in with Providence Islands. In about two hours the wind abated so that sail could be set on the ship and the next morning found us 20 miles from these dangerous islands. We have now eight men that are incapacitated by illness from doing their duty. This is owing to the



frequent squalls of rain, and the weather being warm, they are not careful to change their clothes tho' repeatedly told to do so and warn'd of the consequence of neglecting it.

On the 6th of Dec<sup>r</sup> saw the Island of Mysory. We went near enough to see that it appear'd well cultivated. It is moderately elevated towards the sea, but the middle part appears mountainous. Between this and the largest of the Providence Islands three boats went after Sperm Whales and having the good fortune to take five brought them alongside. It was a majestic sight to see so many of these monsters together. While I stood looking over the side your dear Father who stood beside me exclaimed, "Here is rocks under the ship's bottom". Indeed by wearing the ship we only escap'd, for the rocks were so near that you could distinctly see the stones. Judged these was five fathoms, the water remarkably clear. Great Providence Isle about seven miles to the north of us.

Dec<sup>r</sup> 13. Little Charles was amusing himself with his playthings on deck, the man at the helm seized him by the arm which had been lately broken and threw him several feet from him on the deck, With such force as nearly dislocated his shoulder. I heard him scream and ran to him. His father was not in sight, but immediately on being told the circumstance corrected the man, who on being sent to his duty directly after ran to the gangway and jumped overboard. A boat was immediately lowered and went in pursuit of him. They soon return'd with the Gentleman, who was sentenced to receive three dozen stripes for his pains. I could not plead much in his favor, for he was a most audacious character, having by his own account escap'd from a neighboring country jail in Female apparel previous to joining the ship at Gravesend. Such characters as this it is that gives the masters of ships on these long voyages so much trouble that it is hardly safe to go to sea at this present time. From this date to the twenty third five whales were taken. Christmas day brings to our recollection the anniversary of your wedding day which we did not forget altho' it prov'd a busy day otherwise, as the boats went off and took 4 whales this day. This proves to be excellent ground for whales, but it requires a good ship, one that sails well, to keep the ground, as there is a strong current that sets out from the island of Mysory besides such tremendous squalls as require a good strong ship to withstand. Nothing particular occur'd to the twenty fifth of January, except our usual success in taking whales and a constant repetition of bad weather. On this day we discovered land, which prov'd to be a Group



*Factor*  
call'd the Traitor Islands. They were at least twenty miles off, they appear'd a quantity of barren rocky hillocks moderately elevated. The next day after making these islands whales coming in sight the boats put off in high glee in the pursuit, particularly as they could distinguish some verry large whales among the shoal, a circumstance not common on this coast. Their endeavors were crown'd with success, but the weather falling calm, and it being near night I was extremely apprehensive for the boats, who directly after sunset were not to be seen from the mast-head. As they always carry a lantern in the boats we hop'd as soon as it was dark to discover their lights, but in vain. Every eye was strain'd to catch a glimpse, no trace of them could be discern'd. The ship keeper, totally unfit for his office, knew not what to do. By this time it was near nine oclock and no sight nor sound of the boats. My terror was such that it seem'd to me I should lose my senses, but seeing the ship-keeper too much frighten'd to do anything I order'd a large fire to be lit on the Caboose and to fire guns as a direction for the boats. This I had heard spoken of as proper to be done in such cases. To my inexpressible joy about nine oclock word was brought me that they could at intervals discover the lights heave up with the swell. They continued their torching with fresh courage and in two hours more they came alongside, bringing two whales which they had tow'd six or seven miles and what was verry singular they could see the ships hull while we could see no trace of the boats. The next time they put off after whales we were within seven or eight miles of the Traitors. I could discover nothing on them but the coconut and palm tree and these verry scatterinly dispers'd in groups.

Jan'y 26 This day the first we perceiv'd was several whales close to the ship, one was so near as to rub against the hopper. The boats were directly lower'd but without success. The weather is extremely boisterous and squally, raining every day and sometimes it comes down in torrents which confines me entirely to the cabin. This is but a trifling inconvenience compared to what those suffer who are continually exposed by being constantly wet. Most of the ships company are complaining and several are seriously ill. Everything that can be done for their comfort which humanity and a sense of duty dictates is doing, notwithstanding several of them show strong syptoms of the scurvy which will compel us to seek some part of refreshment soon.



Feb<sup>y</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> This being a fine day and the decks being clear I have enjoy'd a promenade, which I hope will dispel the debility and weakness I find gaining ground upon me daily. While I was on deck a large tree came drifting towards us. It was taken alongside and hoisted on board. It was cover'd with the sea clam or Barnacles and had been a long time in the water by its appearance. It prov'd verry acceptable prize to the cook.

Feb<sup>y</sup> 15 Saw Alice Islands, a small group, consisting of one verry high and two low Islands cover'd with coco and plantain trees; these little fertile spots which speckle the Molucca Seas and are scatter'd over all the coasts and seas we cruise in serve to relieve the monotony of the scene. The eye wearied by a constant view of sea and sky loves to rest on these green spots, yet it is with a tantalizing sensation when one thinks of the fine fruit with which they abound that is totally out of our reach; here we took in five whales in doing which Mr. M., our second mate, had his leg verry badly cut by his awkwardness altho' he took no whale to his boat.

5 Fathoms Gt. Prov. to the north 7 miles.

Dec<sup>r</sup> 13 T.W. struck Charles, jump'd over board

19 whales

23 3

25 4 more

Jany. 1 2 more

3 2 more

4 2 more, lost one

15 1 more

16 4

25 5 saw the Traitor Isle. William cut his hand

29 one more

39 3 more

Feb. 4 & 5 Tremendous weather

13 1 more

16 Saw Alice Isl. got 5

1 March Towards Carolines.

March 5 No land in sight, tho we are passing over the ground where the Carolines Isles are laid down in the charts. This creates anxiety.

th

6 Squally tremendous sea, heavy squalls. 7 ditto.

8 Strong winds

8 Carried away the yard in the ships and split the sail all to pieces Hard gales and heavy squalls. 10 Heavy gales attended with severe lightning & thunder and torrents rain. 11 Looking out for Guam, towards night saw the Isle, sounded in and came to anchor off Port Aprur.



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